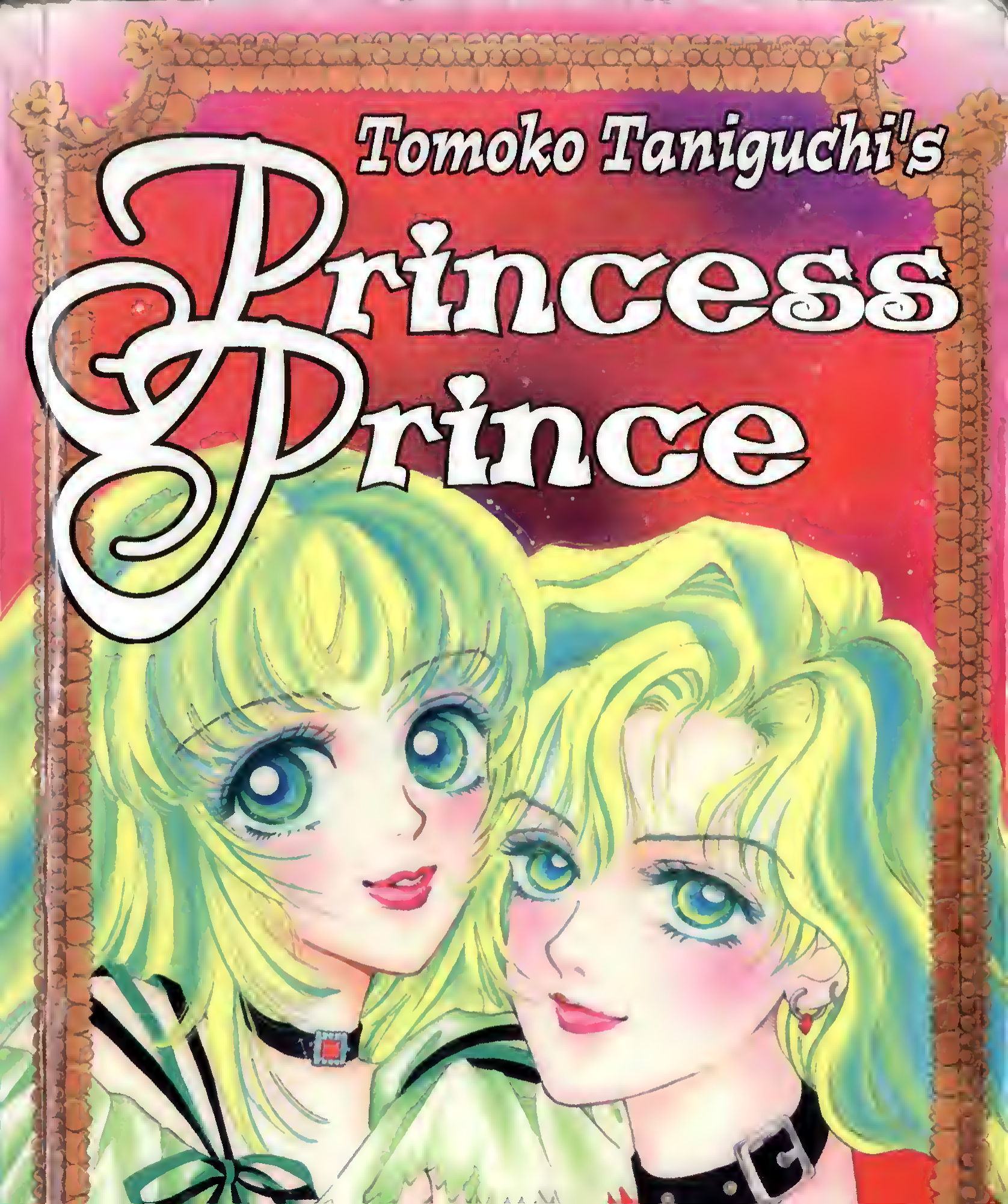
Princess Prince

Ok, a Taniguchi manga this time. Don't read this expecting things to be resolved at the end. Other than that, it's pure shoujo.

Kanzashi

Tomoko Taniguchi's

Princess Prince



$15.95

Fantasy/Romance/Manga

AN ANGEL'S PROPHECY

Mourning the death of his beloved wife, acting on a prophecy handed to him by an angel, the King of Gemstone decides to raise one of his twin sons as a girl.

Will PRINCESS LORI ever get to be PRINCE LAWRENCE?

Will he ever find true love?

Created by the master of shoujo romance comics, TOMOKO TANIGUCHI.

ISBN: 1-58664-860-8

7 19987 00626 3 00111

CPM® MANGA

CMX 62601G

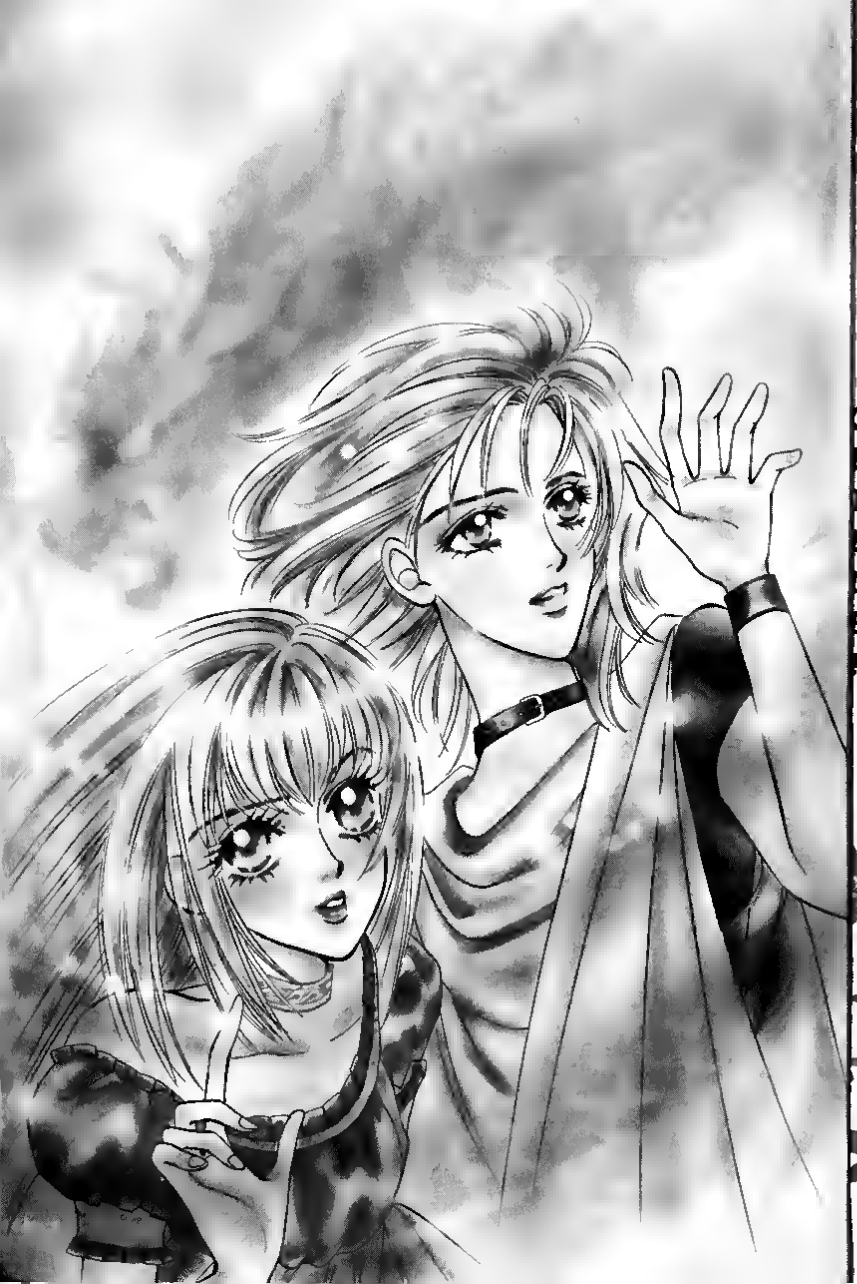
Princess Prince

TOMOKO
TANIGUCHI
Story and Art

ULIA ROSE
Translation

DAN NAKROSIS and
LILI CHUSUEI
Retouch and Lettering

CPM®
MANGA
New York, New York

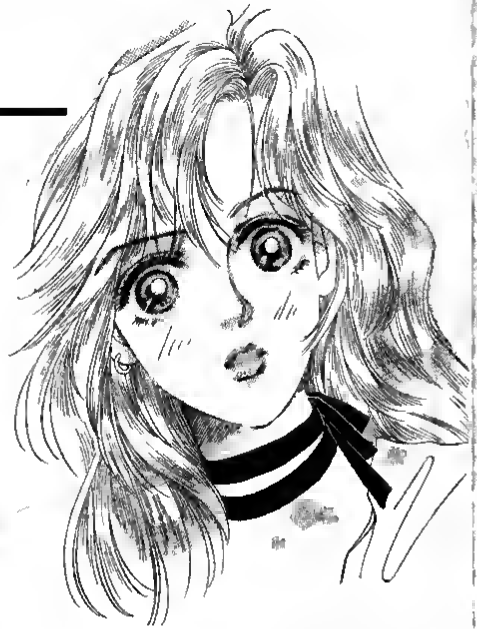


CONTENTS

Character Profiles	6
Princess Prince	11
The Tale of The Castle of Tears	157
Emma's Story	211
Durga	253
Brandon the Thief	282
Artist's Biography	333

CHARACTER PROFILES

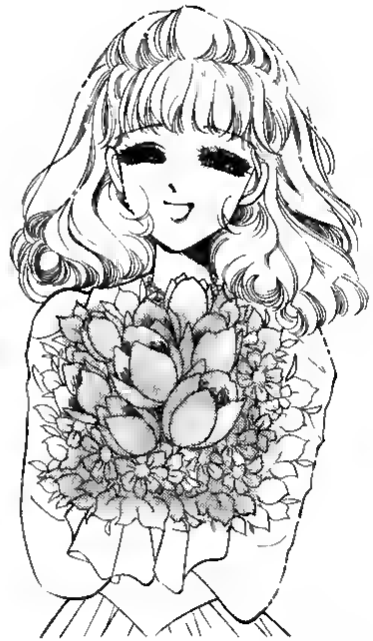
PRINCESS PRINCE



PRINCE MATTHEW is Prince Lawrence's twin brother. A handsome man, he loves to tease the ladies of the kingdom, especially Princess Lori.

PRINCE LAWRENCE was raised all of his life as Princess Lori. This doesn't change the fact that he is a young man. He has a crush on Jenny Nelson but is afraid to reveal his true feelings because of the scandal it would cause throughout the kingdom.

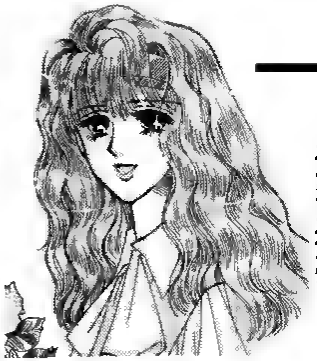
BRANDON WALSH is a dashing young thief disguised as a prince. He came to steal the gems of the Gemstone kingdom, but instead fell in love with Prince Matthew... He thinks that Matthew is a girl!



JENNY NELSON is the love of Prince Lawrence's life...but she has no clue that Princess Lori is a young man.

EMMA is the daughter of the Angel Bird that made the prophecy to the King so long ago. She's forever trying to keep Lori from telling the truth about her situation.

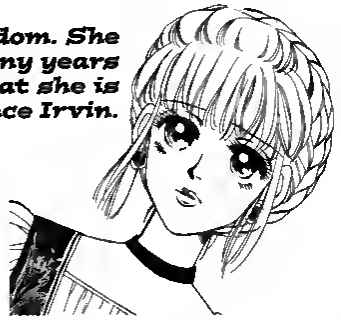
THE KING is a mournful and confused monarch. After years deluding himself that Prince Laurence is actually Princess Lori, he has forgotten where the lines of reality lie.



THE TALE OF THE CASTLE OF TEARS

PRINCE IRVIN is an innocent young prince who was told that his kiss had magic powers. He's engaged to marry Luphia and is unaware of her past before she arrived at the Castle of Tears.

LUPHIA is from a far-away kingdom. She was adopted by Irvin's family many years ago, and has recently discovered that she is engaged to Prince Irvin.



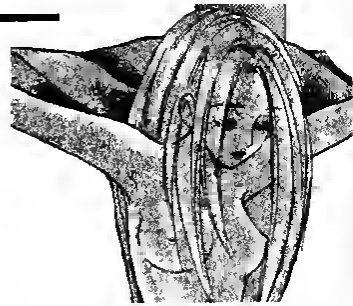
PRINCE AARON is Irvin's younger brother and knows the truth about Luphia's past.

JANICE is a mysterious dark-skinned girl from another kingdom.

LUI is an apprentice thief from Brandon's kingdom. She has a crush on Brandon and is confused with Brandon's attraction to Prince Matthew.

DURGA

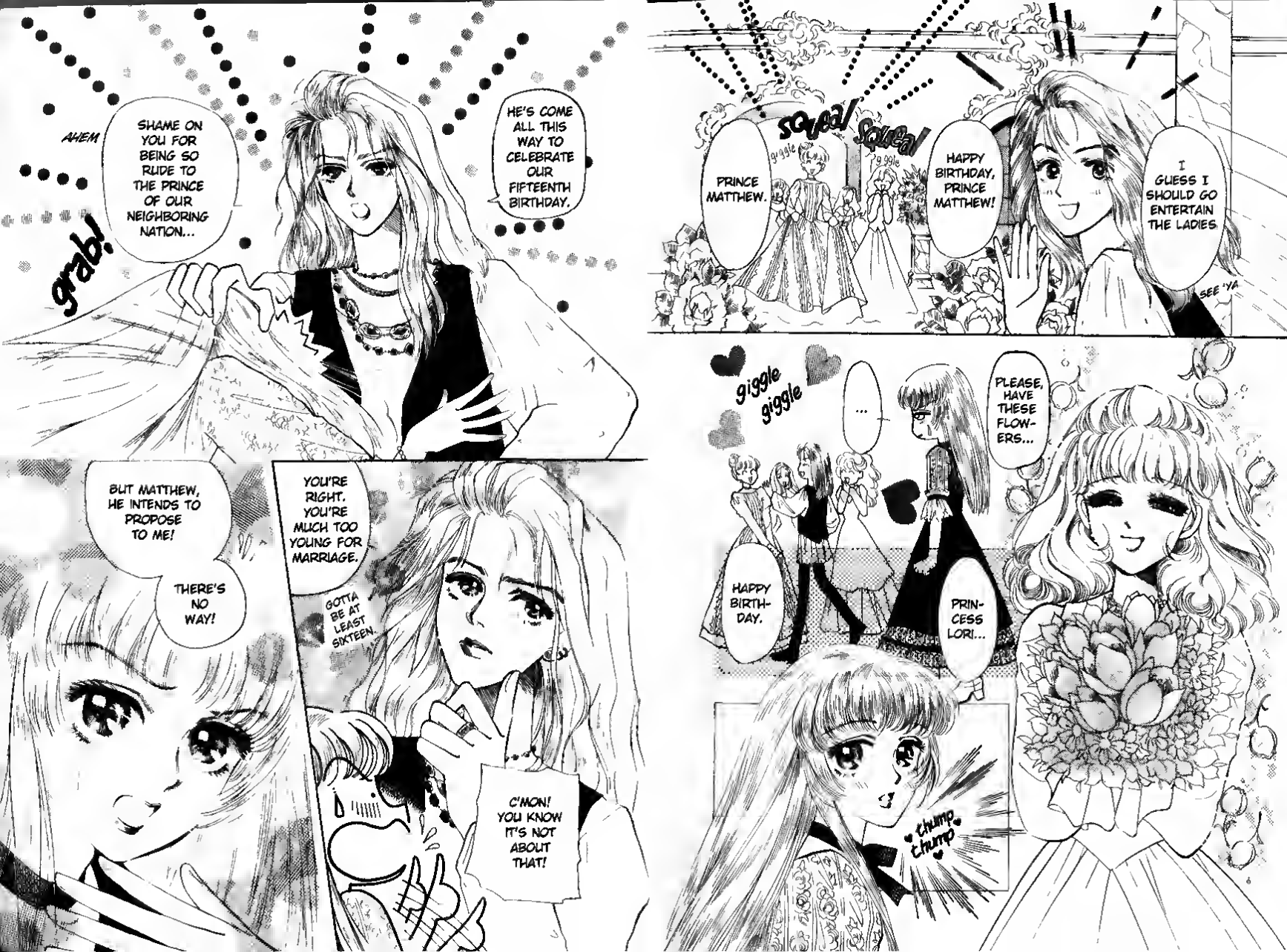
DURGA is a sword possessed with mighty powers and a shocking secret.



SETH'S parents were murdered before his eyes and used Durga to exact revenge, but what are the strange feelings welling in his soul whenever he speaks to his magical sword?

Princess Prince

THE ANCIENT TREASURE IS DEFINITELY HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN THE KINGDOM OF GEMSTONE.
EVEN THE KING HIMSELF DOESN'T KNOW... BUT MY FATHER DIED SEARCHING FOR IT.
MY FATHER'S LAST WORDS WERE ABOUT A SECRET THE YOUNG ROYAL TWINS HOLD.
BRANDON, YOU MUST UNCOVER THE SECRET.
IT MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE TREASURE.
YES.
GEMSTONE KINGDOM, A SMALL AND PEACEFUL NATION
PRINCESS LORI, PLEASE-- AT LEAST ACCEPT THESE FLOWERS.
I'M SORRY, BUT PLEASE STOP CHASING ME. YOU'RE NOT MY TYPE.
NO NEED TO BE SO BLUNT.
KNOCK
THUD

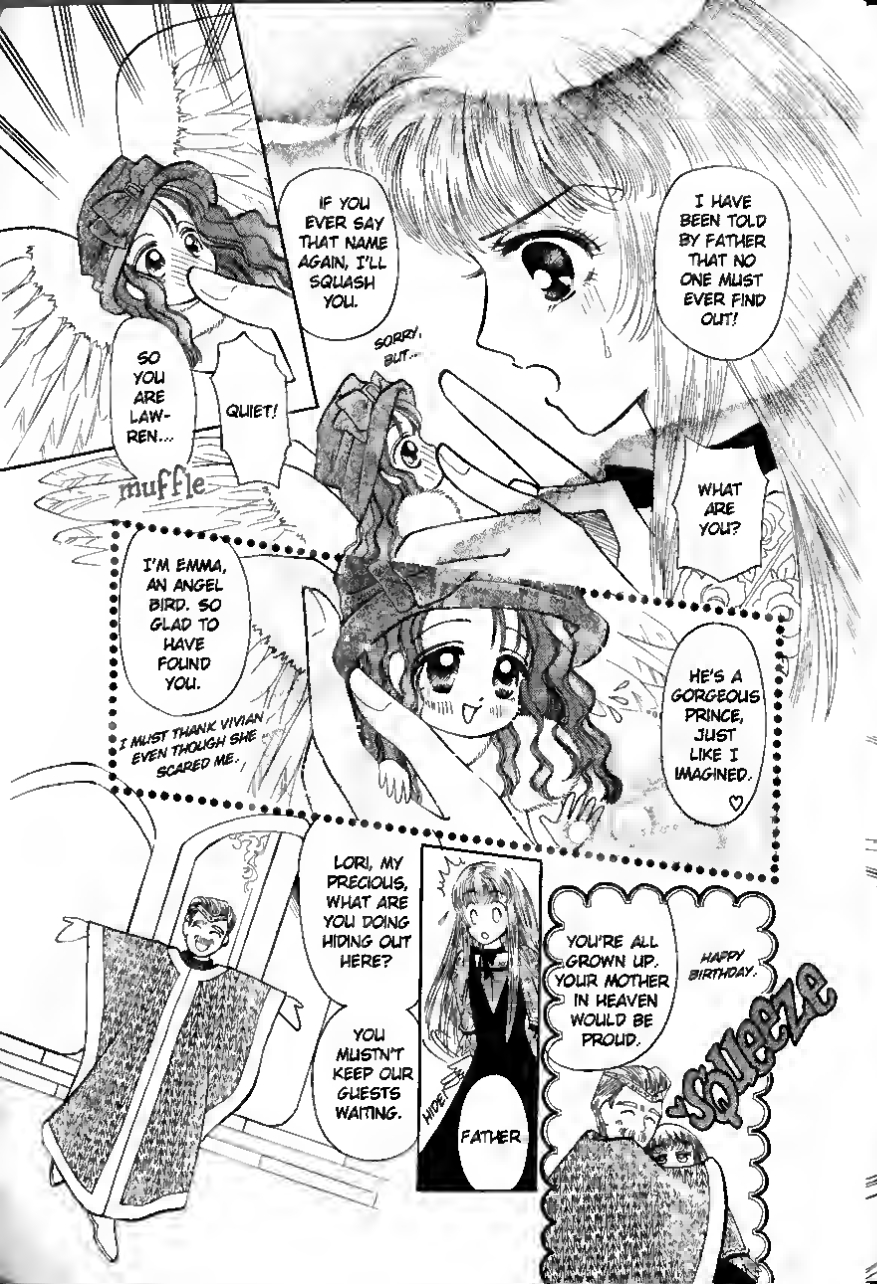

grab!
AHEM
SHAME ON YOU FOR BEING SO RUDE TO THE PRINCE OF OUR NEIGHBORING NATION...
HE'S COME ALL THIS WAY TO CELEBRATE OUR FIFTEENTH BIRTHDAY.
BUT MATTHEW, HE INTENDS TO PROPOSE TO ME!
THERE'S NO WAY!
YOU'RE RIGHT. YOU'RE MUCH TOO YOUNG FOR MARRIAGE.
GOTTA BE AT LEAST SIXTEEN.
C'MON! YOU KNOW IT'S NOT ABOUT THAT!
PRINCE MATTHEW.
giggle
SQUEAL!
giggle
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PRINCE MATTHEW!
I GUESS I SHOULD GO ENTERTAIN THE LADIES
SEE 'YA
giggle giggle
...
PLEASE, HAVE THESE FLOWERS...
HAPPY BIRTH-DAY.
PRIN-CESS LORI...
chump chump

YOU REMEMBERED.
JENNY NELSON, RIGHT?
WE'VE MET AT SEVERAL BALLS.
THESE FLOWERS ARE FOR ME AND NOT MATTHEW?
PRINCE MATTHEW IS SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN FLOWERS.
I...I THINK YOU ARE AS BEAUTIFUL AS A FLOWER.
THANK YOU, PRINCESS!!
sulk...

STOMP STOMP
I'M SO SICK OF THESE HUNKS OF MUSCLE.
PRINCESS LORI, YOU BECOME MORE BEAUTIFUL BY THE DAY.
I'M NOT FEELING WELL. PLEASE LEAVE ME ALONE.
SEE YOU LATER, JENNY.
kiss
turn
WHEN PRINCESS LORI WAS LITTLE SHE WOULD ONLY PLAY WITH BOYS
NOW IT SEEMS SHE IS AVOIDING US.
ha ha ha
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE SHE'S READY FOR LOVE, SO SHE'S EMBARRASSED 'CAUSE SHE'S SURROUNDED BY SO MANY ATTRACTIVE MEN LIKE US.
SHE'S SO NAIVE
sigh
sigh

JENNY... SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN ON MY MIND.
BUT I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO LET HER KNOW NOW I FEEL.
sigh
gunch
MEOW
VIVIAN, DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'VE LANDED?!
BAM!
Look, Look
See See
OH, YOU CAUGHT A BIRD?
GOOD KITTY. STRONG KITTY. NOW GET OFF!
I'm gonna get eaten!
RRREOW!

la la la
MY BEAUTIFUL HAIR! I USE TIMOTEI SHAMPOO OF COURSE, BECAUSE TIMOTEI REPRESENTS SHAMPOO FOR BLONDE HAIR.
PRINCE LAWRENCE, HELP!
WHA!
WHO... WHO ARE YOU?!
grab
NOW DO YOU KNOW MY REAL NAME?!


IF YOU EVER SAY THAT NAME AGAIN, I'LL SQUASH YOU.
I HAVE BEEN TOLD BY FATHER THAT NO ONE MUST EVER FIND OUT!
SORRY, BUT...
SO YOU ARE LAWREN...
QUIET!
muffle
WHAT ARE YOU?
I'M EMMA, AN ANGEL BIRD. SO GLAD TO HAVE FOUND YOU.
I MUST THANK VIVIAN, EVEN THOUGH SHE SCARED ME.
HE'S A GORGEOUS PRINCE, JUST LIKE I IMAGINED. ♡
LORI, MY PRECIOUS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HIDING OUT HERE?
YOU MUSTN'T KEEP OUR GUESTS WAITING.
HIDE!
FATHER
YOU'RE ALL GROWN UP. YOUR MOTHER IN HEAVEN WOULD BE PROUD.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY.
squeeze

YOU LOOK MORE AND MORE LIKE YOUR MOTHER.
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO...
SEE, I'M REALLY A PRINCE, TOO!!
MOTHER DIED GIVING BIRTH TO US TWINS.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND? THIS CHILD IS A PRINCESS.
YOU ARE TO RAISE HER TO LOOK LIKE THE MOTHER.
OVERCOME BY GRIEF, FATHER DECIDED THE BABY WHO LOOKED MORE LIKE MOTHER WOULD BE RAISED AS A PRINCESS.
BUT.. THE POOR CHILD
YOUR MAJESTY, NO...
SOB SOB
I'M NOT A TRANSVESTITE.

TILL NOW, I'VE DONE IT FOR FATHER.
HURRY ALONG AND COME TO THE HALL.
BUT I CAN'T EVEN TELL A GIRL...
...THAT I LIKE HER...
'CUZ WE'RE BOTH "GIRLS."
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, MOTHER CAME ACROSS A KING IN THE FOREST, MOURNING THE LOSS OF HIS QUEEN.
THAT MUST BE THE KING WHO MOTHER GAVE THE PROPHECY TO.
HUH?
FIFTEEN YEARS HAVE GONE BY, SO MOTHER SENT ME TO SEE HOW THINGS WERE GOING.
MY MOTHER FELT BAD FOR HIM AND PREDICTED HAPPINESS FOR HIS KINGDOM.

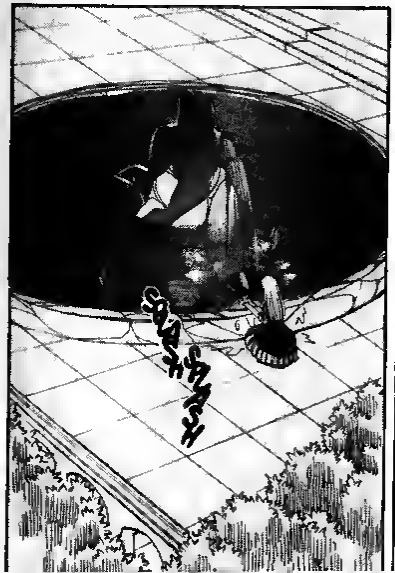
A PLACE WHERE THE STARS SLEEP?
FROM A PLACE WHERE THE STARS SLEEP, SHALL COME THE PROSPERITY OF YOUR KINGDOM...BUT ALSO ITS MISFORTUNE.
THE CHILDREN OF THE SUN WILL BE THE PROTECTORS OF THAT PROSPERITY. HOWEVER...
ONE SHALL BE RAISED AS A CHILD OF THE MOON TO DECEIVE THE ENEMY AND EASE THE MISFORTUNE.
A CHILD OF THE MOON?
THE MOON IS THE SYMBOL OF FEMALE ENERGY.
AND SO THAT'S WHY I WAS MADE A PRINCESS.
THAT'S THE MISFORTUNE ITSELF FOR ME!

Flap Flap
MOTHER SOMETIMES SAYS THINGS...
...IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT
HEY!!
BUT IT'S ALL RIGHT.
EMMA HAS COME TO PROTECT YOU.
EEEEOOOOWWW
AAAAAAA
GALLOP! GALLOP! GALLOP!
IT DOESN'T LOOK "ALL RIGHT."
I DID NOT KNOW ABOUT SUCH A PROPHECY...
I WONDER WHAT THAT MEANS... "THE PLACE WHERE THE STARS SLEEP?"
"MISFORTUNE" ...
...NOT IN A PEACEFUL LITTLE COUNTRY LIKE THIS.
CHATTER CHATTER
WHO IS THAT?
pssspsssppss
HE'S GORGEOUS
MAYBE HE'S A PRINCE.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, PRINCESS LORI.
HUH?

MY NAME IS BRANDON WALSH.
UH, PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
THOK! THOK! THOK!
UGGGH. GOTTA GO WASH MY HANDS.
BUT WE'D BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO ENTERTAIN YOU.
HOW DARE SHE TURN HER BACK TO ME!!
PLEASE, MASTER BRANDON, THE PRINCESS IS VERY SHY.
TOMBOYS LIKE HER ARE ESPECIALLY NAIVE ABOUT MEN.
SO... SHE'S NAIVE. HOW CHARMING ...HA!
WHO'S HE? THAT'S A NEW FACE.
MY LADIES ARE SO TAKEN BY HIM.
HUNH?
UN...
...UNACCEPTABLE!!
QUIVER QUIVER
STARE
HUH?! EYES— BURNING THROUGH ME!!

WHAT THE...?
HUH, I'VE GOT HIM! HUMPH...!
PERFECT NARCISSISM PART I!
WHA... WHAT WAS THAT...?

WHAT COULD SUCH A BURNING GAZE MEAN?
WAS THAT PRINCE MATTHEW LOOKING THIS WAY JUST NOW?
YES. HE'S SO BEAUTIFUL HE MAKES ALL WOMEN WEAK IN THE KNEES...
PRINCE ...?
WHY WOULD THE PRINCE...?
I KNOW I'M GORGEOUS, BUT...WHAT SHALL I DO?


SMASH

PRIN-CESS LORI!

YEEESS?
squeeze
PRINCESS LORI, YOU'RE ALWAYS RUNNING AWAY FROM MEN.
WHAT ABOUT YOURSELF, WHY AREN'T YOU INSIDE TALKING TO THAT HANDSOME MAN?
HANDSOME MAN
I'M THE SAME AS YOU, PRINCESS LORI.
I'M NOT SO GOOD AT TALKING TO MEN.
SHE'S SO CUTE
GREAT, THEN LET'S BE FRIENDS FOREVER AND JUST IGNORE THE MEN.
squeeeze

BAM!
hrr
hmm.
WHAT IS THAT?
WOW, AN ANGEL BIRD. I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE BEFORE.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
aaah!
NOT AGAIN!
WAIIII!
DON'T GO TOO FAR, IT'S DANGER-OUS!
gallop gallop
VIVI!
CAREFUL, THOSE WOODS HAVE LOTS OF CLIFFS. IT'S NOT SAFE.
OH, SO UNLADYLIKE, PRINCESS.
WELL, I'VE GOTTA HELP THEM.

I'VE FIGURED OUT THE TWINS' SECRET!!!
THE TWINS ARE...
THEY'RE BOTH GIRLS!!!
WHAT? WHO THE HECK ARE THOSE GUYS?
THE KING NEEDED AN HEIR.
SO HE RAISED ONE OF THEM AS A BOY.

NO MATTER HOW WELL THEY'VE BEEN ABLE TO PULL IT OFF, THEIR ACT CRUMBLED BEFORE MY GORGEOUSNESS.
MASTER BRANDON B.A.B.E.
PRINCESS LORI?
rustle
SHHH!
PERFECT NARCISSISM, PART 2.
WHO'S THERE?!
ANOTHER ADMIRER
RUN!
CATCH THEM.
IT'S PRINCESS LORI.
STOMP STOMP!

huff
huff
OH, WHAT CAN I DO...?
stop
PRINCESS LORI, WHAT'S THAT SOUND OF WATER?
RRRRRUMBLE!
RRRRRUMBLE
RRRRRUMBLE

Stomp
Stomp
JENNY, DO YOU TRUST ME?
WHAT?
I PROMISE I WON'T LET GO OF YOU!!
HERE WE GO!

MATTHEW...!!
gasp!
LORI?
HAVE YOU SEEN LORI?
UM? SHE WAS IN THE GARDEN EARLIER...
I FEEL SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT...
LORI!?

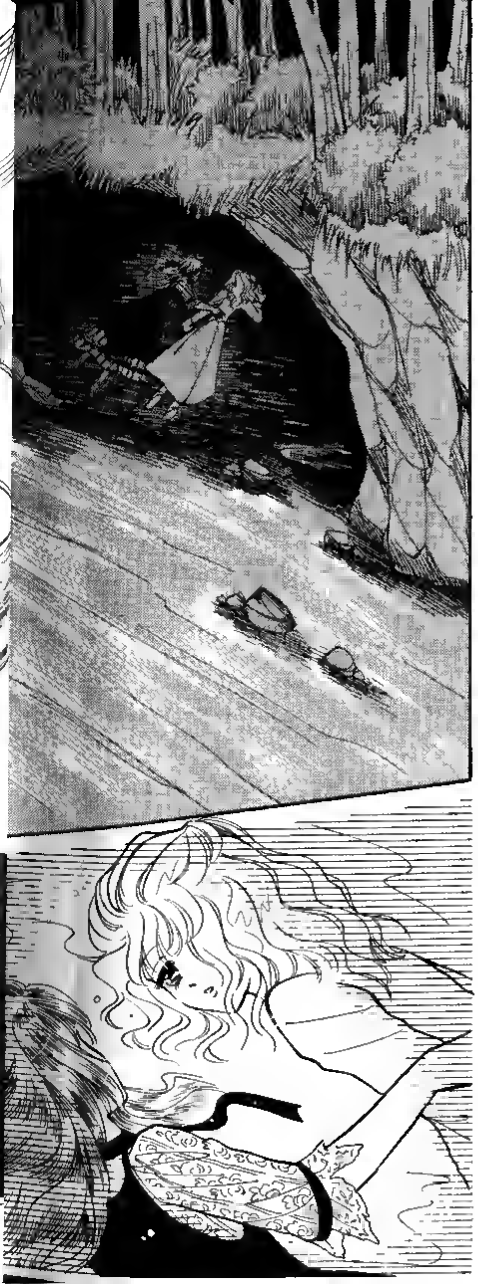
Wa
GAP!
"PRINCESS?"
COME QUIETLY AND YOU WON'T BE HARMED, "PRINCESS."
HOWEVER, I MAY STEAL YOUR HEART.
JUST KIDDING
WHAT THE HECK IS HE TALKING ABOUT!?
GAG!
WHAP!

YOU'RE PRETTY WIMPY.
I JUST HAD MY GUARD DOWN SINCE YOU ARE A GIRL.
SWEAT
I'M MATTHEW! I'M A GUY!
I THINK YOU'VE MADE A MISTAKE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
I KNOW YOUR SECRET.
IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO EXPOSE YOU, DO AS I SAY!
KA
thwak

OH, NO!
I'VE STRUCK A GIRL!!
BASTARD!
SMACK!
KUKK!
THWACK
WHACK
HUFF
HUFF
WHINE
WHINE
RUBBISH! SO WHO'S THE GIRL NOW?
YOU'VE STRUCK MANY TIMES ANYWAY.
MY, MY NOSE IS BLEEDING.
W...
WONDERFUL.

YOU ARE THE WOMAN I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR.
A TRUE GODDESS IS NOT ONLY BEAUTIFUL BUT STRONG AS WELL.
I SAID, I AM NOT A GIRL!!
HE JUST DOESN'T GET IT. IS HE STUPID OR WHAT?
I AM A MEMBER OF THE WALSH BANDITS WHO ROAM THE SEVEN MOUTAINS
OH, I'VE HEARD OF THEM...
BUT FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, I SHALL BE YOUR SERVANT.
HURM... IT MAY BE WORTHWHILE TO PRETEND...
...TO BE A GIRL AROUND HIM.

WAIT A SECOND.
HUH!
HAVE YOU DONE SOME-THING TO LORI?
WHOOPS! SHE WAS EAVESDROPPING ON US SO I HAD MY MEN CHASE HER INTO THE WOODS.
WHAT!?
THIS WAY.
DRIP!



JENNY... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YOU SEEM OKAY ...
I SUPPOSE IT'S BECAUSE, PRINCESS LORI, YOU DID NOT LET GO OF ME.
I WONDER WHERE WE ARE.
I NEVER KNEW THERE WAS A CAVE ALONG THE RIVER.

BRR!
IT'S DANGEROUS, WE SHOULD STAY HERE TILL MORNING..
SNIFF
...MAYBE IF WE HUDDLE TOGETHER WE CAN STAY WARM.
QUIVER
THUMP THUMP
nestle

IF I WERE A MAN...
COULD I PRO-POSE TO YOU?
YES! YES!
pout pout
MAT-THEW!!
FOR!
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE OK!!
SNUGGLE
SNUGGLE
HEY, YOU!!
IT'S OK, HE'S MY SLAVE NOW.
G-FORCE THEME SONG
KA-BAM
OUCH!
YOU AGAIN. HOW COME YOU'RE ALWAYS BUTTING IN?
YOU CAN'T TALK THAT WAY 'CAUSE ...I BROUGHT MATTHEW HERE FOR YOU!
SLAVE?
PEACE!
I WONDER WHAT'S BACK HERE?
SPARK
WHOOSH

WOOOW
IT LOOKS LIKE A CLUSTER OF STARS.
THIS ...
...MUST BE WHERE THE STARS SLEEP!!!

THIS HAS GOT TO BE THE ANCIENT TREASURE THAT WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR!!
...
shiver
IF OTHER KINGDOMS FIND OUT ABOUT THIS,
THEY WILL COME INVADE US FOR THE TREASURE!
THE FIFTEENTH BIRTHDAY OF THE TWIN PRINCES MATTHEW AND LAWRENCE...
NOPE WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS! WE NEVER SAW THIS!
GRR
...WAS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ADVENTURE
LET'S JUST BURY THIS CAVE!!

Jenny, for you...
...I shall become the strongest Prince who ever lived.
YOU'RE NOT READY TO USE A REAL SWORD YET, LORI.
HERE, TRY THIS INSTEAD

THIS IS GEMSTONE, A PEACEFUL KINGDOM, SURROUNDED BY WOODS AND LAKES.
JEEZ!
STILL JUST A STICK? AND I WAS LOOKIN' SO GOOD.
NO ONE LOOKS BETTER WITH A SWORD THAN I, PRINCE MATTHEW!
GO, PRINCES!
LORI!!
Ya!
KLANG!
KLANG!
THERE YOU GO AGAIN, DRESSING LIKE A BOY!!

SLAM!
COME WITH ME TO THE QUEEN'S ROOM.
YES, FATHER.
OWW!
OOOPS, SORRY.
stick
DRESSING LIKE A BOY?
BUT I AM A BOY.
RIGHT?
I THINK FATHER HAS FORGOTTEN.
AND YOU SHOULD TOO.
FORGET?
IT WOULD MAKE LIFE EASIER.
HELLO, EVERYONE. I'M EMMA, AN ANGEL BIRD.

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO EVERYONE.
MATTHEW AND LORI ARE TWIN PRINCES.
PRINCE MATTHEW.
DRESSES ARE SUCH A PAIN
BUT LORI, WHO LOOKS A LOT LIKE THE QUEEN WHO DIED, IS BEING RAISED AS A GIRL.
KING.
BUT YOU CAN'T TELL ANYONE.
LOVE
LOVE
ONE OF THE BANDITS, BRANDON WALSH.
PRINCESS LORI (WHOSE REAL NAME IS PRINCE LAWRENCE.)
HE THINKS MATTHEW AND LORI ARE BOTH GIRLS.
JENNY NELSON.
I DON'T WANT JENNY TO KEEP THINKING I'M A GIRL!!

EVEN THOUGH I LOOK LIKE MOTHER...
Knock! Knock!
FATHER, YOU WANTED TO SEE ME...
LORI.
FATHER, IT HAS BEEN FIFTEEN YEARS SINCE MOTHER DIED.
THERE ARE TONS OF WOMEN WHO WOULD LOVE TO BECOME YOUR QUEEN.
I DON'T NEED A NEW QUEEN.
FLORA STILL LIVES IN YOU.

HE LOVES MOTHER SO MUCH...
...I GUESS I WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE TO BE A GIRL...
...FOR A LITTLE WHILE LONGER ...FOR FATHER.
AH, WELL.
grrrh
BY THE WAY LORI, I'VE HAD A NEW DRESS MADE.
JUST LIKE THE ONE IN THE POR-TRAIT.
UH... THERE'S PADDING IN THE CHEST!!!
TRY IT ON, TRY IT ON!!
Ohhhhh

GRAB
YIKES!!
FWOOORRA!!
GET AWAY, YOU FREAK!
POW! POW! POW!
YUUUG.
I AM SO GLAD I DON'T LOOK LIKE MOM.
PRIN-CESS LORI...
...JENNY NELSON HAS COME FOR YOU.

PRINCESS LORI, HURRY!
GOING OUT?
I'VE BEEN INVITED TO A TEA PARTY AT THE WALKER'S. GIRLS ONLY.
GIRLS ONLY? LUCK-Y. I ENVY YOU!!
THEN DO YOU WANNA PLAY THE PRINCESS?
TEA PARTIES ARE SO BORING.
GIRL TALK IS SO STUPID.
THEN WHY ARE YOU GOING?

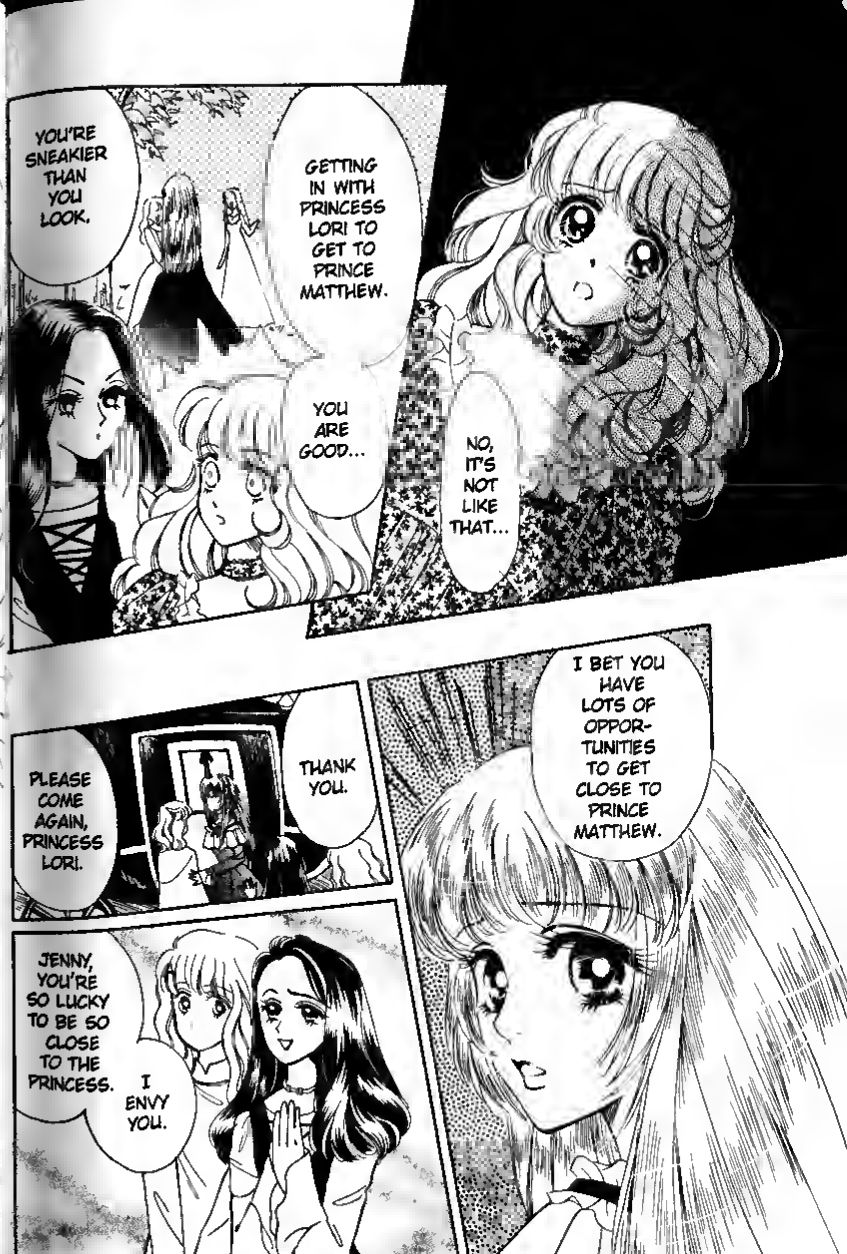
CUZ JENNY'S GOING TOO!
WHATEVER.
HE LOOKS HAPPY.
I CAN HAVE MY OWN TEA PARTY, WITH ALL GIRLS!
Prince Matthew
UGH, THIS MANLY VOICE COULD ONLY BE...!!!
PRINCE MATTHEW, BRANDON WALSH JUST NOW RETURN-ING...
...TO YOUR SIDE!!

I TOLD MY GANG THAT I'VE GOTTEN IN GOOD WITH THE PRINCE SO I CAN SNOOP AROUND THE PALACE!!
I THOUGHT YOU WENT BACK TO YOUR GANG.
SO I'M ALL YOURS!!!
UUUUUUH
JENNY, I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU.
HERE...
IT MATCHES!
I HAD THEM MAKE THIS. IT'S A GEM FROM THE CAVE WE FOUND THE OTHER DAY.
MATTHEW, WHO IS THAT FELLOW? YOU'RE NOT INTO GIRLS AND...BOYS... ARE YOU?
HE'S SOME IDIOT WHO'S CONVINCED I'M A GIRL.
HE'S SO LOUD.

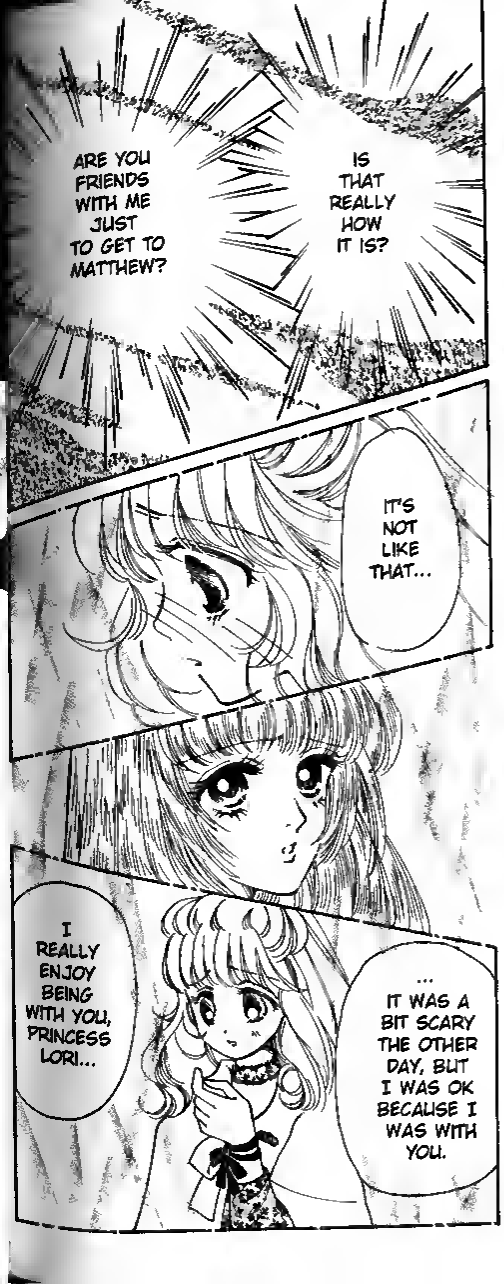
PLEASE DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THE CAVE,
OK?
IT'S OUR SECRET, BETWEEN YOU AND ME AND MATTHEW.
OH YEAH, THERE WAS SOMEONE ELSE TOO.
HELLO, IT'S KEAN, DON!
OUR S-E-C-R-E-T SPOT.
AAAAAH!
TOO CLOSE!!
WHA?
WHA? YOU CAME TOO?!
BUT EMMA HAS COME TO PROTECT YOU!!
BAM!
KABANG!
YOU'RE ALWAYS INTERFERING.
TUD.
QUIVER
QUIVER
Wiggle
Wiggle

WELCOME, PRINCESS LORI.
JENNY.
HATTIES
QUEEN
AND MASTER DYLAN IS TOTALLY INTO KELLY...
YES, BUT MASTER JAMES IS SO CUTE TOO.
QUIVER
CHILLER
UHHHM
BY THE WAY JENNY, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WHAT'S YOUR TYPE?
UH, ME?
SLURP
gulp.

UM. I THINK IT WOULD BE GREAT IF THERE WAS A BOY JUST LIKE...
... PRINCESS LORI.
Yaaaay heeeee
REALLY? OH, JENNY!
JENNY?
COULD YOU GIVE ME A HAND?


YOU'RE SNEAKIER THAN YOU LOOK.
GETTING IN WITH PRINCESS LORI TO GET TO PRINCE MATTHEW.
YOU ARE GOOD...
NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...
I BET YOU HAVE LOTS OF OPPOR-TUNITIES TO GET CLOSE TO PRINCE MATTHEW.
THANK YOU.
PLEASE COME AGAIN, PRINCESS LORI.
JENNY, YOU'RE SO LUCKY TO BE SO CLOSE TO THE PRINCESS.
I ENVY YOU.

I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG.
THEY'RE SO QUIET.
peek
BAGGED EMMA.
I CAN SEE HOW GIRLS FALL FOR HIM.
YEAH. MATTHEW IS A PRINCE.


ARE YOU FRIENDS WITH ME JUST TO GET TO MATTHEW?
IS THAT REALLY HOW IT IS?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...
I REALLY ENJOY BEING WITH YOU, PRINCESS LORI...
... IT WAS A BIT SCARY THE OTHER DAY, BUT I WAS OK BECAUSE I WAS WITH YOU.

PLEASE BELIEVE ME!!
P-P-PRINCESS !!!
AH!

PHEW!
DAMN IT.
?
?
?
WHAT WAS THAT?
CRACK!
CRACK!

THAT'S MY JOB.
PLEASE, PRINCESS, STOP.
WHY ARE YOU SO MAD? FATHER'S GOING TO BE UPSET WITH YOU AGAIN.
I'M A PRINCE TOO...

I DON'T CARE IF I'M SURROUNDED BY MANY GIRLS...
...I JUST WANT TO BE WITH JENNY.
THEN WHY DON'T YOU TELL JENNY THE TRUTH?
NO, YOU CAN'T DO THAT... MOTHER'S PROPHECY!!
LORI HAS TO PRETEND TO BE A GIRL...
...OR THIS KINGDOM WILL FALL INTO MISFORTUNE.

WOW. THIS IS SO COOL. I WONDER IF I'D LOOK STRONG IF I PUT IT ON?
CLANK!
CLANK!
EMMA LIKES LORI JUST THE WAY SHE IS.
OO!
manly
I WONDER WHAT JENNY WOULD THINK IF SHE SAW ME LIKE THIS...
...A STRONG KNIGHT?
WOBBLE
SQUEAK
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
SQUEAK
SPLAT!
OW!

SEE YA!
WAIT!
YOU'RE NOT REALLY GOING?!
CLOP! CLOP
OKAY, IF YOU REALLY MUST.
PRINCE MATTHEW
I SHALL ACCOMPANY YOU!
CLOP.
OKAY!
IF YOU REALLY MUST.
CLOP
LORI!
CLOP!
YAWN
CLOP!

CHITTER! CHATTER!
RRRROOOOAR!
aaaaaHH!

AAAH!
aa
ah!
aa
ah!
aa
ah!
AAAAH!
QUIET!
WHERE IS THE TREASURE?!
TREASURE?
WHAT THE HELL?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WE'VE BEEN TOLD THAT "THE GEM OF POWER" THAT WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR IS SOMEWHERE HERE IN THIS COUNTRY
IF YOU DON'T TELL US...
THERE! OVER THERE, ON THE HILL, THE NELSON ESTATE!!
IT'S THERE!!
OK, I'LL TELL YOU.
pant
pant

RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
fwoosh!
fwii!
IS IT TRUE?
NELSON? THAT'S JENNY'S PLACE.
OF COURSE IT'S A LIE.
CRASH!!

AAA!
I CAN FEEL IT!!!
THE PRESENCE OF THE GEM!!
grab!
JENNY!!
YOU! YOU HAVE THE GEM.

OH!
THERE MUST BE MORE THAN THAT. TELL ME WHERE THE GEMS ARE!!
IF YOU DON'T, I'LL FEED YOU TO MY LION.
grrr!
DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THE CAVE.
IT'S OUR SECRET SPOT.

PRINCESS LORI...
I...
I WON'T TELL.
GET HER!
ROAR
ROAR
GO!
FLOP!
WHAT?

JENNY!!
SQUEAK
SQUEAK!
WOOOSH
SQUISH
grab

YARRR!
FLOP!
SPLASH
Charge
Ahh!
THEME SONG TO G-FORCE
SCHWAP!
CHOMP
SWOOSH
YIKES.
STAB
THWAP!

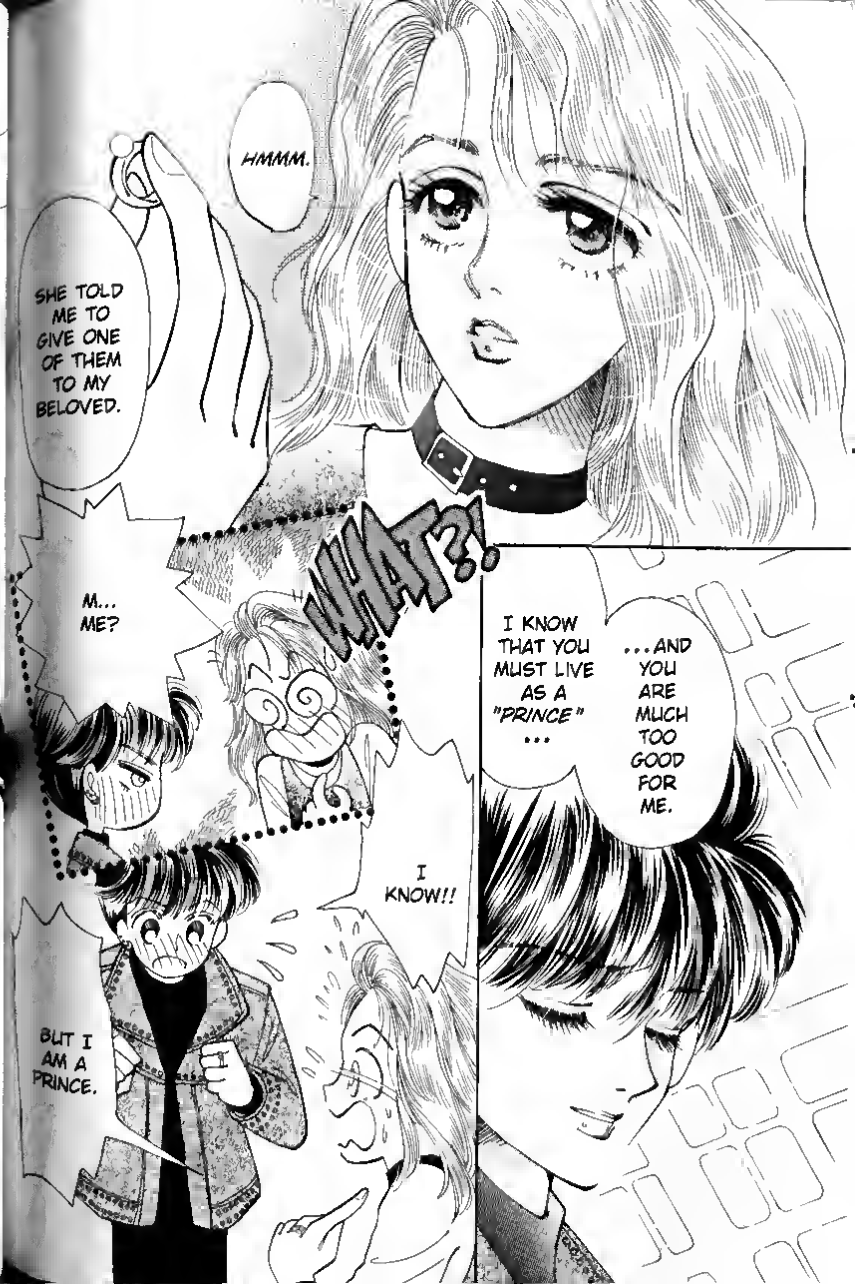
I'VE GOT IT!! ♡
SIGH
I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE ALL OVER AGAIN.
HI-YA!
NO TIME FOR DAYDREAMING! I MUST GO TO MATTHEW'S RESCUE.
KICK!
FLIP
FLIP
FLIP

HALT
THAT STONE!!
CHING
KLANG
OH, NO.
I ALMOST...
HAD THE STONE...
...THE SPELL WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETE.
FSSSSH
DAMN.
FLAP!
shake!
grab!
shake!
FSSSSH
FSSSSH
?
MEOW!
BAAAA!
IT WAS A MAGIC BAT. THE ANIMALS WERE UNDER A SPELL.
SQUEAK!
??
SQUEAK!
BAAAA
?

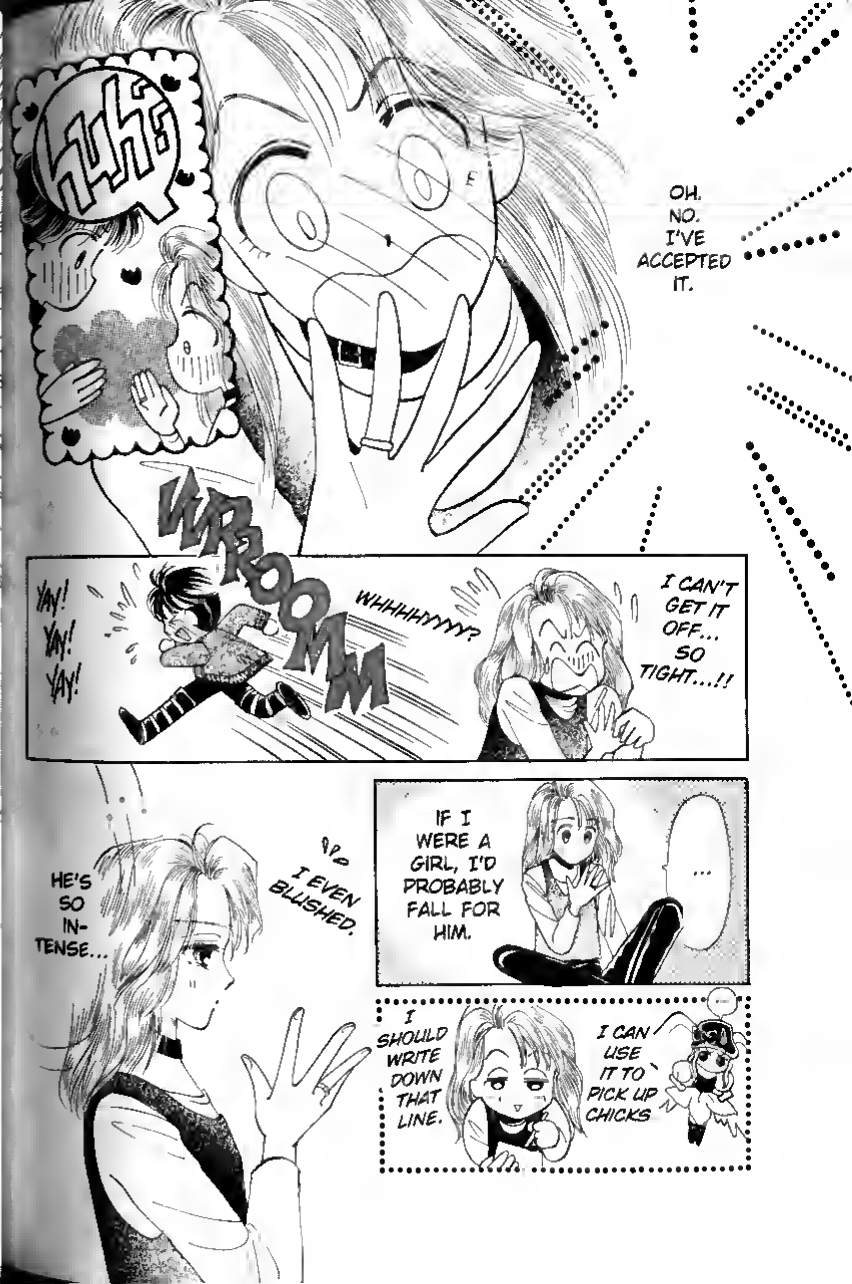
THANK YOU, PRINCE MAT-THEW!
UM, WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
CHOMP!
OUCH!
heee heee
CLIP CLOP
WAAA!!
HE'S JUST A TRAVEL-ING KNIGHT I RAN INTO.
I'VE GOT TO GO. I'LL SEE YOU LATER, JENNY.

JUST AS MOTHER PREDICTED, THE TREASURES IN THE CAVE ARE REALLY VALUABLE.
hah!
I HAVE MUCH MORE IMPORT-ANT THINGS ON MY MIND.
I CAN'T BE BOTHERED.
I'M GOING TO GO CHECK ON JENNY, AGAIN.
TAKE CARE OF EMMA
HEY, STOP.
I TOLD JENNY YOU WERE A TRAVELING KNIGHT THAT I JUST RAN INTO.
pout
WHAT?
JENNY COULD'VE AT LEAST REALIZED IT WAS ME.
IT COULD HAVE BEEN A KNIGHT-ESS.
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GONNA REVEAL THAT I'M A BOY.
I SUPPOSE.
ah ha ha!
meow!

PRINCE MATTHEW.
UM...
THESE RINGS BELONGED TO MY MOTHER.
?!?


HMMM.
SHE TOLD ME TO GIVE ONE OF THEM TO MY BELOVED.
M... ME?
WHAT?!
I KNOW THAT YOU MUST LIVE AS A "PRINCE" ...
...AND YOU ARE MUCH TOO GOOD FOR ME.
I KNOW!!
BUT I AM A PRINCE.

EVEN THOUGH MY LOVE MAY NEVER BE RE-TURNED...
...I SHALL FOREVER BE YOUR SHADOW AND PROTECT YOU!!


HUH?
OH. NO. I'VE ACCEPTED IT.
VRROOMM
WHHHHYYYY?
YAY! YAY! YAY!
I CAN'T GET IT OFF... SO TIGHT...!!
HE'S SO IN-TENSE...
I EVEN BLUSHED.
IF I WERE A GIRL, I'D PROBABLY FALL FOR HIM.
...
I SHOULD WRITE DOWN THAT LINE.
I CAN USE IT TO PICK UP CHICKS

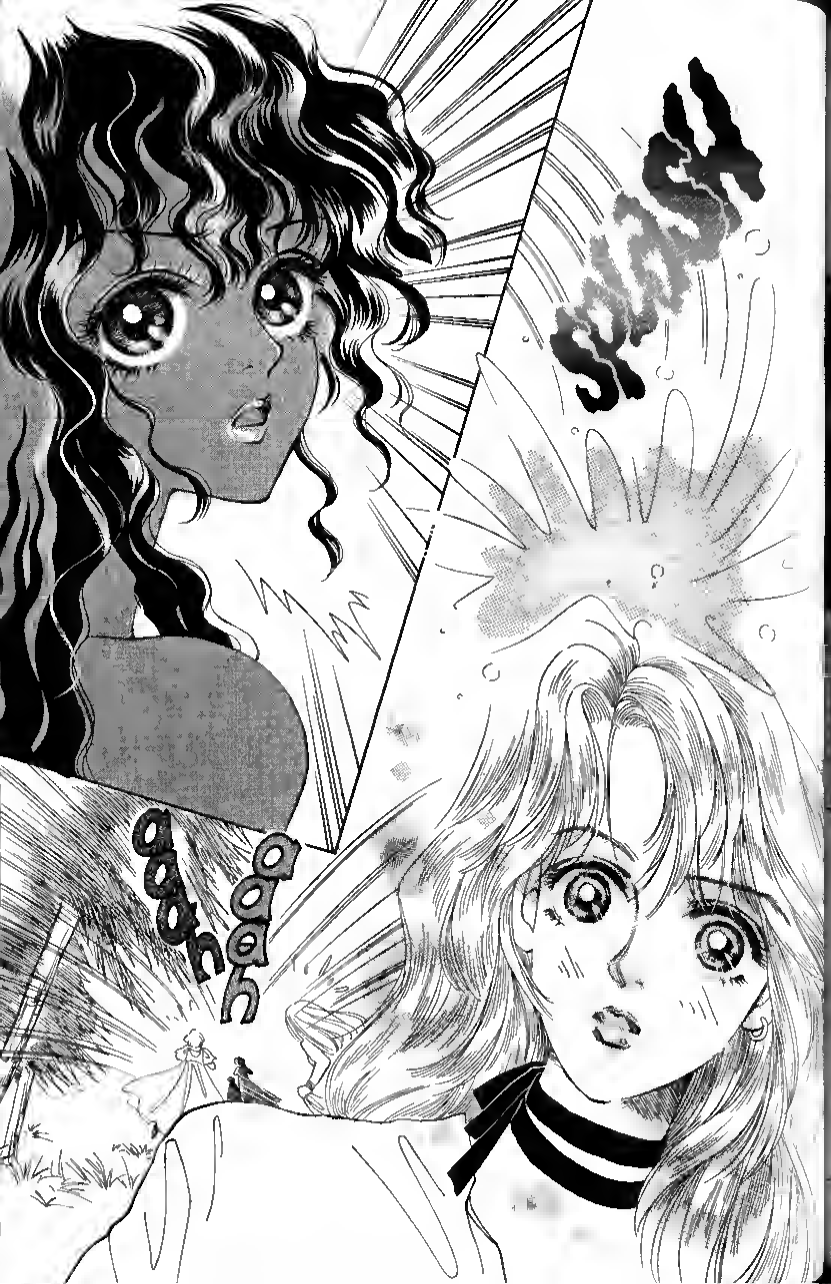
I HEARD IT WAS HORRIBLE. ARE YOU OK?
...IT WAS OLD TO BEGIN WITH.
YES, BUT PRINCE MATTHEW AND THE KNIGHT SAVED US.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY BROKE DOWN THE WALL...
...I THINK I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE.
hee hee
ACTUALLY...
PRINCESS LORI, I...
WHO? WHO IS HE?
SHOCK!
WHA?!
JUST OUT OF THE BLUE?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HIS NAME...
...BUT MY HEART WON'T STOP RACING
I CAN'T GET THE KNIGHT OUT OF MY MIND.
THIS IS THE ONLY THING HE LEFT BEHIND.
A STRAND OF HAIR?
?
FUCK!
ACHOOo!!
PRINCESS LORI, HOW COULD YOU!!
SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO.

WAAH!
I CAN'T FIND IT.
THE KNIGHT'S HAIR. I WAS GOING TO TREASURE IT...!!
GIRLS!
WHY WAS IT SO IMPORTANT ANYWAY?
YAWN
HERE, I FOUND IT.
IT'S THE SAME THING, ANYWAY
I KNOW, IT'S STRANGE
BUT YOU DIDN'T EVEN SEE HIS FACE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'D FALL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE...
WHAT IF HE LOOKS LIKE THIS? VERY FUNNY FACE!
WHAT KIND OF FACE IS THAT?
NO WAY!
I AM SURE HE IS BEAUTIFUL.
WHAT IF...?
EVEN IF HE LOOKS LIKE THAT,
I AM SURE HE IS A BEAUTIFUL PERSON... PROBABLY!!!
BUT...
...I DON'T KNOW IF I WILL EVER SEE HIM AGAIN.
I'M SURE YOU WILL...
...SOMEDAY.

SOMEDAY...
...FOR SURE!

PRINCE MATTHEW OF GEMSTONE.
THE COUNTRY'S MOST BEAUTIFUL NARCISSIST...
...IS HAPPIEST WHEN SURROUNDED BY MANY GIRLS.

SPLASH
WHA?
A MERMAID. A BLACK MERMAID!!
A MERMAID FROM THE NETHER-WORLD!!


SPLASH
aaaaaaa

ACHOO!
THE GIRLS WERE FREAKING OUT ABOUT SEEING A MERMAID FROM THE NETHER-WORLD.
IS SHE FOR REAL?

A MERMAID FROM THE NETHER-WORLD.
BOYS-- ALWAYS SO CURIOUS.
SHE ENTRANCES PEOPLE WITH HER BEAUTY AND DRAGS THEM INTO THE NETHER-WORLD.
I WISH I COULD'VE SEEN HER TOO. HOW BEAUTIFUL WAS SHE?
A BEAUTIFUL YET LETHAL SPIRIT.
QUIVER

THAT'S STRANGE. THE LAKE IS MOTHER'S TERRITORY. A MERMAID OF THE NETHER-WORLD ...
... SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO COME NEAR IT.

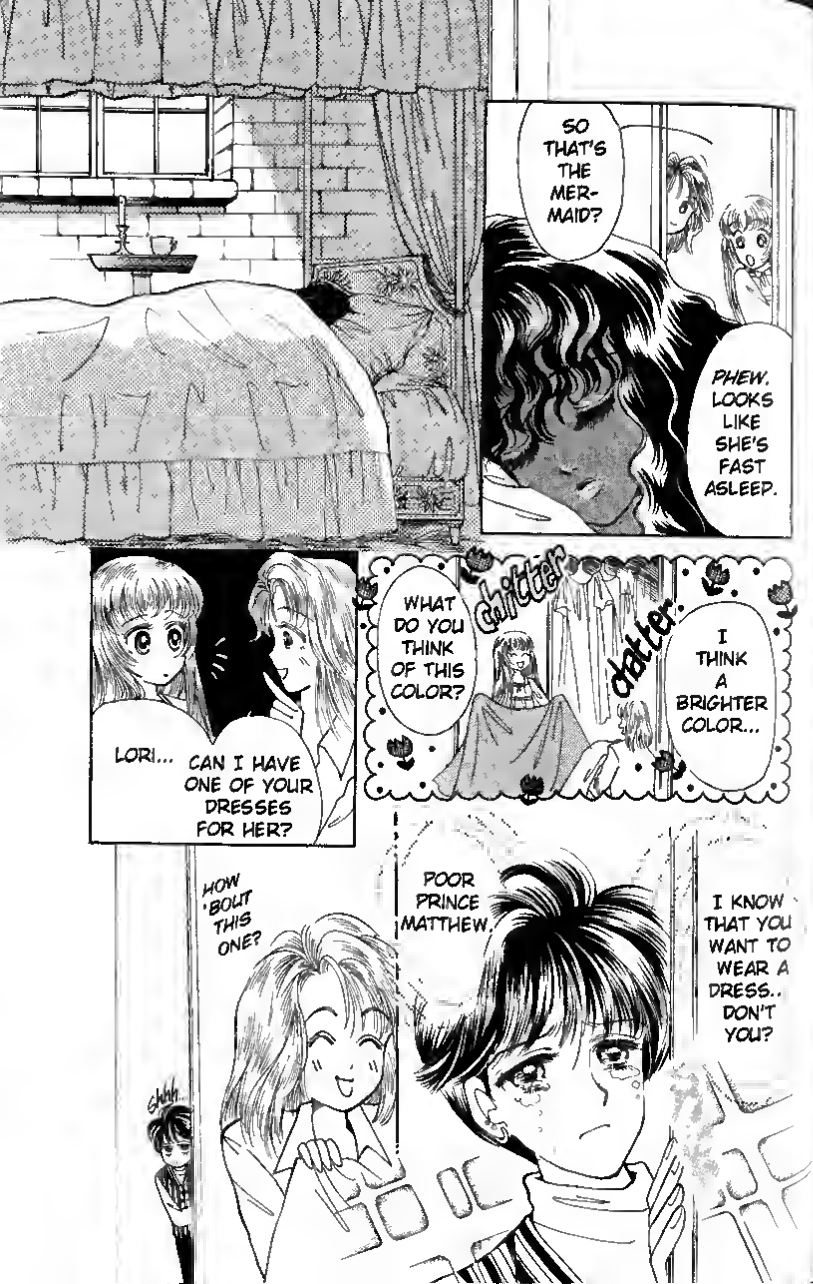
RUSTLE RUSTLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE

SWOOSH
HA!
LEGS! SO YOU'RE NOT A MERMAID.

MER-MAID?
DON'T WORRY.
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF SO LET GO OF THE STICK.
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU. EVERYONE IS THE ENEMY!!
I...I'M THE PRINCE OF THIS NATION, PRINCE MATTHEW.
I SAW YOU THIS AFTERNOON AND THOUGHT YOU WERE A TRAVELER PASSING THROUGH.
SO... I CAME TO MEET YOU.
KLANK
A PRINCE? WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?
UM...
I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE LIKE YOU.
YEAH, I DON'T SUPPOSE THERE ARE ANY PEOPLE WITH MY COMPLEXION HERE, EITHER...
IS THAT WHY YOU THOUGHT I WAS A MERMAID?
I'M USED TO BEING TREATED LIKE I'M NOT HUMAN.
WHAT?

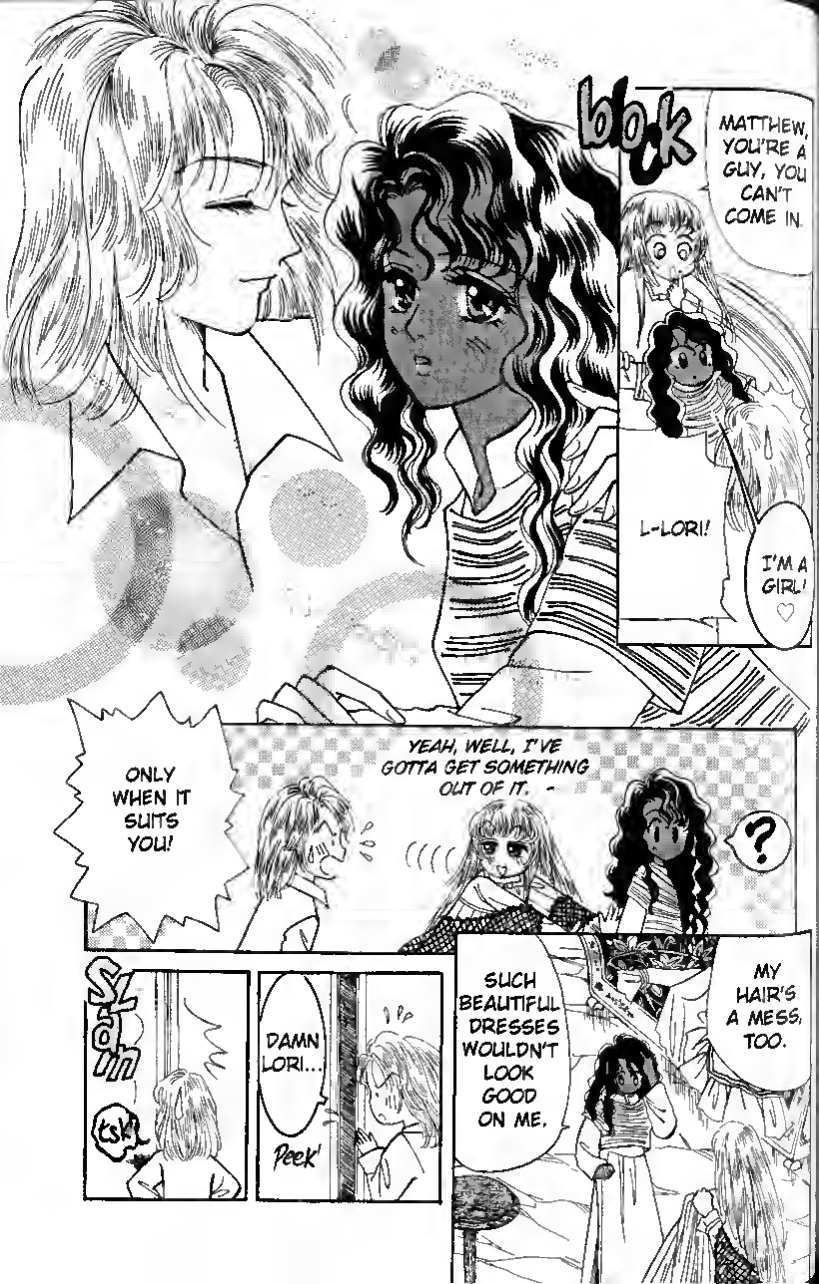
NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
UM...
...I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOU...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?
UH, WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME TO THE PALACE? YOU CAN'T SPEND THE NIGHT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
LEAVE ME ALONE!!
YOUR HIGH-NESS,
I'M SURE A LOT OF WOMEN FALL FOR YOUR LINES ..
...BUT I'M NOT BUYING YOUR LIES.
I'VE NEVER SAID ANYTHING LIKE THIS TO ANY-ONE.
WOMEN...
...ARE ALWAYS TELLING ME HOW BEAUTIFUL I AM.
PLEASE, BELIEVE ME.
COME WITH ME. YOU MUST BE HUNGRY TOO.

brushy brushy
WHAT!? MATTHEW, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY BED!?
SQUEEZE
MMMM, JENNY. ♡
huh?
what?
WHAT WERE YOU DREAMING ABOUT?
PER-VERT
NO--I WASN'T!
CREAK


SO THAT'S THE MER-MAID?
PHEW. LOOKS LIKE SHE'S FAST ASLEEP.
LORI... CAN I HAVE ONE OF YOUR DRESSES FOR HER?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS COLOR?
I THINK A BRIGHTER COLOR...
chitter chatter
HOW 'BOUT THIS ONE?
POOR PRINCE MATTHEW.
I KNOW THAT YOU WANT TO WEAR A DRESS.. DON'T YOU?
shhh

SHE WENT THAT WAY!
PRINCESS LORI'S ROOM!
dash
stomp stomp stomp
PRINCESS LORI, WE'LL TAKE THE INTRUDER!
SHE SNUCK INTO PRINCE MATTHEW'S ROOM!!
stomp STOMP

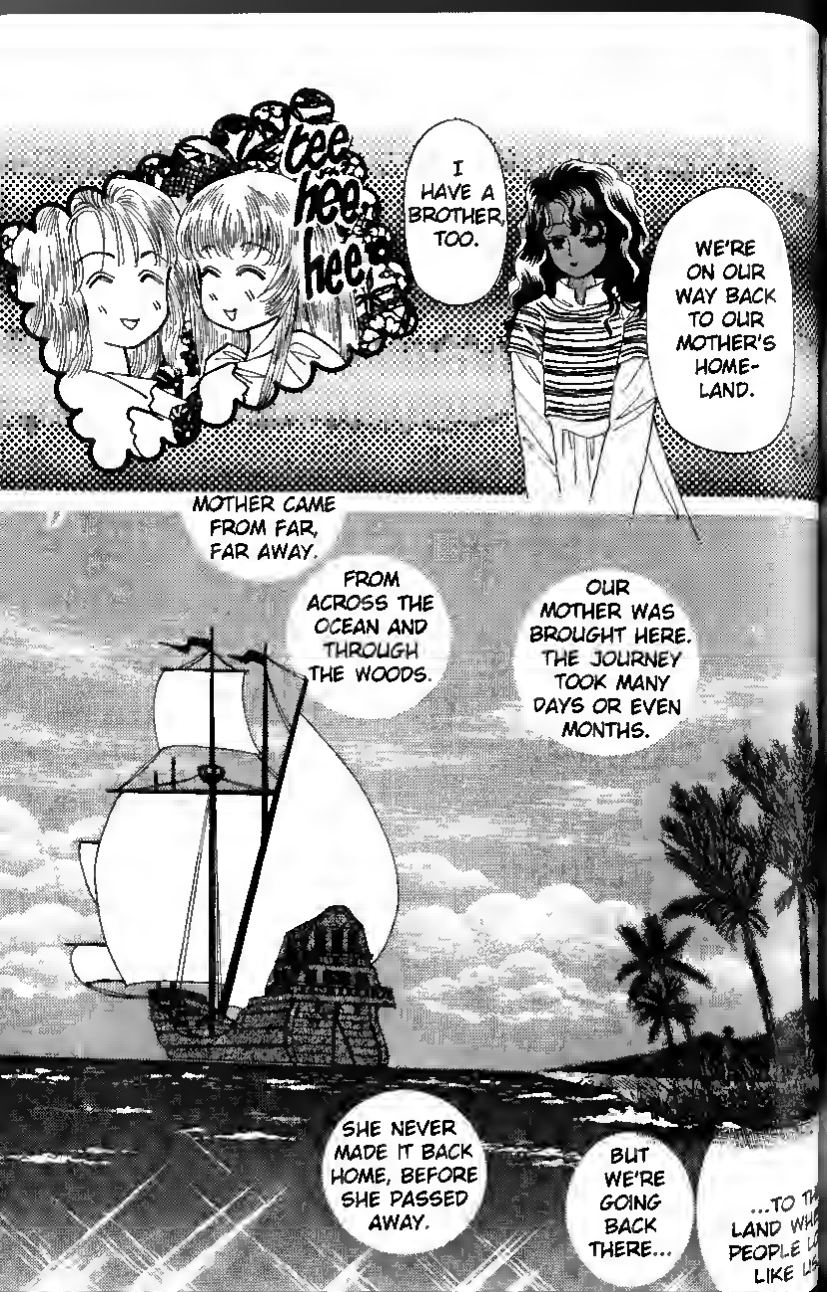
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
BOO-HOO
THE PRINCE MUST BE UNDER A SPELL.
TSK, TSK. YOU MADE THEM CRY.
AREN'T THEY THE GIRLS YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ON? AND THEY CAME OVER SO EARLY TOO.
IT'S FINE. WHY DON'T YOU TRY ON SOME OF LORI'S DRESSES AND PICK ONE OUT?
..SINCE LAST NIGHT. .
SHE DIDN'T SNEAK IN.
SHE'S MY GUEST...
THIS CREEPY GIRL IS THE PRINCE'S GUEST?
SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE CRAWLED OUT OF A SWAMP. SHE'S NASTY. HOW COULD YOU LET HER STAY?
HOW CAN YOU BE SO RUDE!!
THAT'S NOT RIGHT, PRINCE MATTHEW
HOW DIS-GUS-TING!
PLEASE LEAVE!!


MATTHEW, YOU'RE A GUY, YOU CAN'T COME IN.
bock
L-LORI!
I'M A GIRL! ♡
YEAH, WELL, I'VE GOTTA GET SOMETHING OUT OF IT.
?
ONLY WHEN IT SUITS YOU!
MY HAIR'S A MESS, TOO.
SUCH BEAUTIFUL DRESSES WOULDN'T LOOK GOOD ON ME.
DAMN LORI...
Peek'
Sigh
tsk

THAT'S NOT TRUE. LIKE MATTHEW SAYS...
YOU'RE A NEW TYPE OF BEAUTY, SUCH AS I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
I'VE NEVER HAD SOMEONE WITH HAIR AND SKIN AS BRILLIANT AS THE SUN...
...SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO ME.
LIKE THOSE GIRLS...
...THEY FIND ME DISGUSTING
AND DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME.
AND THIS SCAR...? MADE BY SOMEONE?

YES...
BUT I'VE BEEN DESPISED SINCE I WAS BORN...
...SO I'M USED TO IT.
NO ONE CARES, EVEN IF I CRY, EVERY TIME.
ah!
SLAM
SEE! YOU CAN'T HANDLE THIS!
WE'RE BOTH G♥I♥R♥L♥S.
GET AWAY FROM HER, PERVERT.

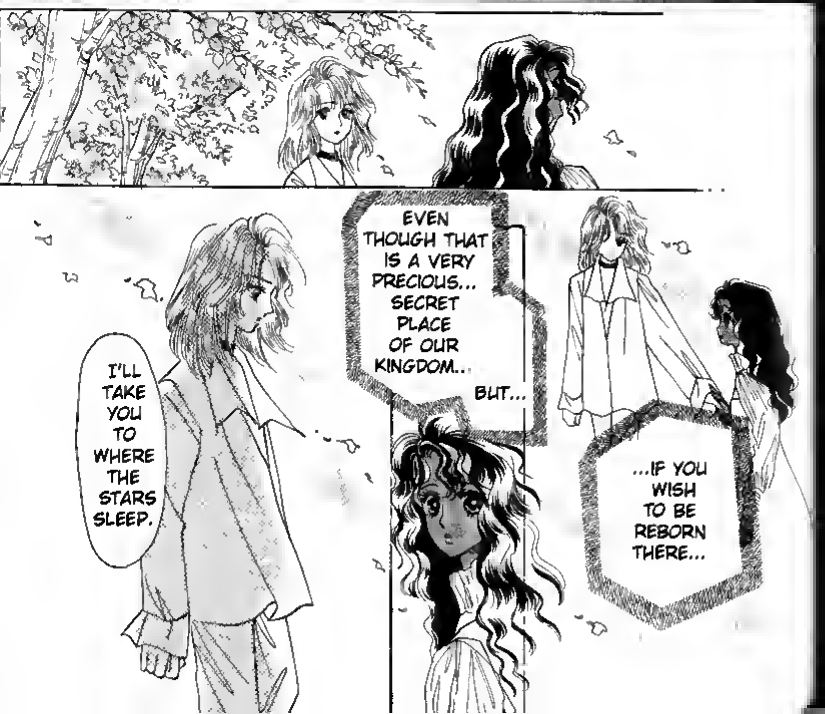
you!
BROTHER, SUCH VULGARITIES!
Y-YOU TWO ARE...
...REALLY...
...STRANGE!


tee hee hee
I HAVE A BROTHER, TOO.
WE'RE ON OUR WAY BACK TO OUR MOTHER'S HOME-LAND.
MOTHER CAME FROM FAR, FAR AWAY.
FROM ACROSS THE OCEAN AND THROUGH THE WOODS.
OUR MOTHER WAS BROUGHT HERE. THE JOURNEY TOOK MANY DAYS OR EVEN MONTHS.
SHE NEVER MADE IT BACK HOME, BEFORE SHE PASSED AWAY.
BUT WE'RE GOING BACK THERE...

BUT I GOT SEPARATED FROM MY BROTHER. I CAN'T MAKE IT ALONE.
THEN WHY DON'T YOU STAY HERE! FOREVER!
YEP. A LOVE THAT WAS DESTINED... IT EXISTS!!
MAYBE FOR EMMA AND LORI TOO..
RRR
RRR
HMMM?
WOW. LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
MATTHEW THE NARCIS-SIST IS IN LOVE.
JUST CUZ SHE'S PRETEND-ING TO BE A BOY!
THERE'S NO WAY!!

SOMETIMES GIRLS ADMIRE GIRLS.
YES, YES.
RIGHT, PRINCESS LORI?
I GET IT!
PING!
LIKE HOW PRINCESS LORI IS ALWAYS HANGIN' OUT WITH GIRLS
WHY CAN'T HE JUST FIGURE OUT THAT MATTHEW'S REALLY A GUY?
IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT MATTHEW HAS TOLD HIM SO MANY TIMES...
I FEEL KINDA SORRY FOR BRANDON.
I HAD A DREAM
ABOUT A WINGED FAIRY... MAYBE AN ANGEL BIRD.
SHE WAS STANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS LAKE.
THIS IS THE LAND WHERE THE STARS SLEEP. YOU WILL BE REBORN HERE.
SO WHEN I CAME AND FOUND THIS LAKE, I WAS SHOCKED.
IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME AS IN MY DREAM...
LAND WHERE THE STARS SLEEP?
...AND I HAD THIS FEELING THAT IF I BATHED IN THIS WATER...
...THE COLOR OF MY SKIN WOULD CHANGE.
HOW STUPID OF ME.

OH... THAT DAY...


EVEN THOUGH THAT IS A VERY PRECIOUS... SECRET PLACE OF OUR KINGDOM...
BUT...
I'LL TAKE YOU TO WHERE THE STARS SLEEP.
...IF YOU WISH TO BE REBORN THERE...

...I'LL DO THIS FOR YOU...

...MAT-THEW...
NO... THESE GEMS ARE AS BRILLIANT AS THE STARS BUT...
THIS IS WHERE THE STARS SLEEP.
YOU WILL BE REBORN HERE...
FOR ME, THE STARS ARE..
...YOU, MATTHEW.
IT'S AMAZ-ING.
MANY COME TO MY KINGDOM SEEKING THESE GEMS.
IT IS MY DUTY TO PROTECT THEM.
YOU CAME HERE FOR THE GEMS, TOO.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF MAGIC YOU WILL USE THEM FOR, BUT TAKE WHAT YOU WANT..
IT IS INDEED AS BEAUTIFUL AS THE STARS.
...IF IT CAN HELP YOU IN ANY WAY.

I'VE FINALLY MET SOMEONE WHO LOVES ME.
I AM NO LONGER THE PERSON I ONCE WAS.
THE GIRL SHUNNED BY EVERYONE...
...I AM NO LONGER THAT PERSON.

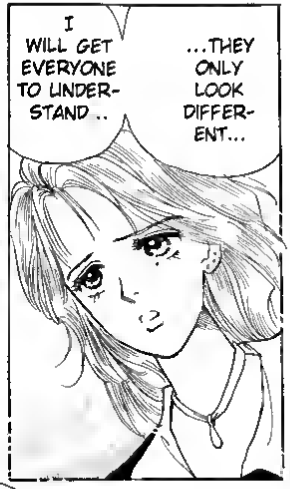
MATTHEW, WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!
HE WAS SNIFFING AROUND THE CASTLE.
MICHEL!
JANICE, SO YOU ARE HERE!!

HAS HE DONE SOME-THING WRONG?
UH... NO...
BUT, HE JUST LOOKED SUSPI-CIOUS!
SO YOU BEAT HIM UP FOR DOING NOTHING?
THIS IS HOW IT ALWAYS IS, MATTHEW.
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE OK.
UNTIE HIM!! HE IS MY GUEST.
...YES... BUT...
I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR THE LAKE LIKE THE ONE IN YOUR DREAMS,
AND ENDED UP HERE.
I HAD A FEELING YOU'D END UP HERE, TOO... BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO GO THERE.
I CAN'T LEAVE YOU BEHIND AND GO ALONE.
Quiver Quiver
THANK YOU...
rush rush
OH, I WAS SO SCARED!! I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BITE ME.
I'M SURE IT CAME FROM THE NETHER-WORLD.

I THOUGHT EVEN ITS BLOOD WOULD BE BLACK.
HUH... ITS BLOOD IS RED.
SHH

WHY WOULD THE PRINCE TAKE HER IN?
HE MUST BE UNDER A SPELL!
THEN WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CASTLE?
MAT-THEW...

EVERY-ONE IN THE CASTLE IS NER-VOUS,
AND SOON IT WILL SPREAD THROUGH-OUT THE COUNTRY.
YOUR GOSSIPY LADIES ARE MAKING A LOT OF NOISE.


I WILL GET EVERYONE TO UNDER-STAND..
...THEY ONLY LOOK DIFFER-ENT...

I TRUST YOU. I WILL LEAVE IT UP TO YOU.
THANK YOU, FATHER.

WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'M GOING HOME WITH MY BROTHER.
PLEASE, LET ME GO.
WHY? IF YOU STAY HERE IN THE CASTLE, NO ONE WILL EVER HURT YOU AGAIN!
I WILL PROTECT YOU, FOREVER!

...THEN THAT WOULD MEAN...
...I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOU.
DON'T GO!
WE HAVE A HOME WHERE WE BELONG...
...AND MAYBE THERE, IN THAT LAND...

...I MIGHT BE A PRIN-CESS.
SEE? AND IF THAT WERE TRUE...I COULD COME BACK HERE AND FIND YOU.
...I WILL GIVE YOU A HORSE.
IT WILL SPEED UP YOUR JOURNEY...
...SO YOU CAN COME FIND ME SOON.
THANK YOU.
UM... I HAVE SOME-THING...
HUSH!
catch
...TO REMEMBER MATTHEW BY.
IT'S THE COLOR OF MAT-THEW'S EYES..

AL-
WAYS...
I WILL
REMEM-
BER...
YOU...
CLIP CLOP
PRINCE
MAT-
THEW!
CHEER
UP,
PRINCE
MAT-
THEW.
I UNDER-
STAND
YOU ARE
SAD, BUT...

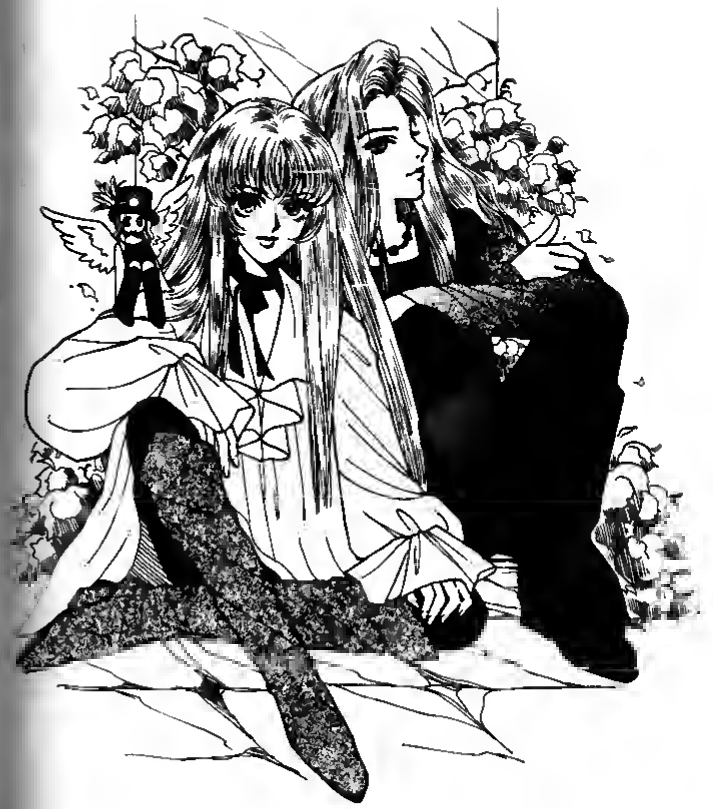
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?! I DON'T EVEN WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE!!
I'M SICK OF IT!
...I SEE... THEN...
I SHALL LEAVE YOU, FOR-EVER...
BUT...

PLEASE BELIEVE JUST ONE THING.
I, MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.
BECAUSE MY LOVE WILL NEVER BE RETURNED.
BRAN-DON...!!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME. I DIDN'T MEAN IT.

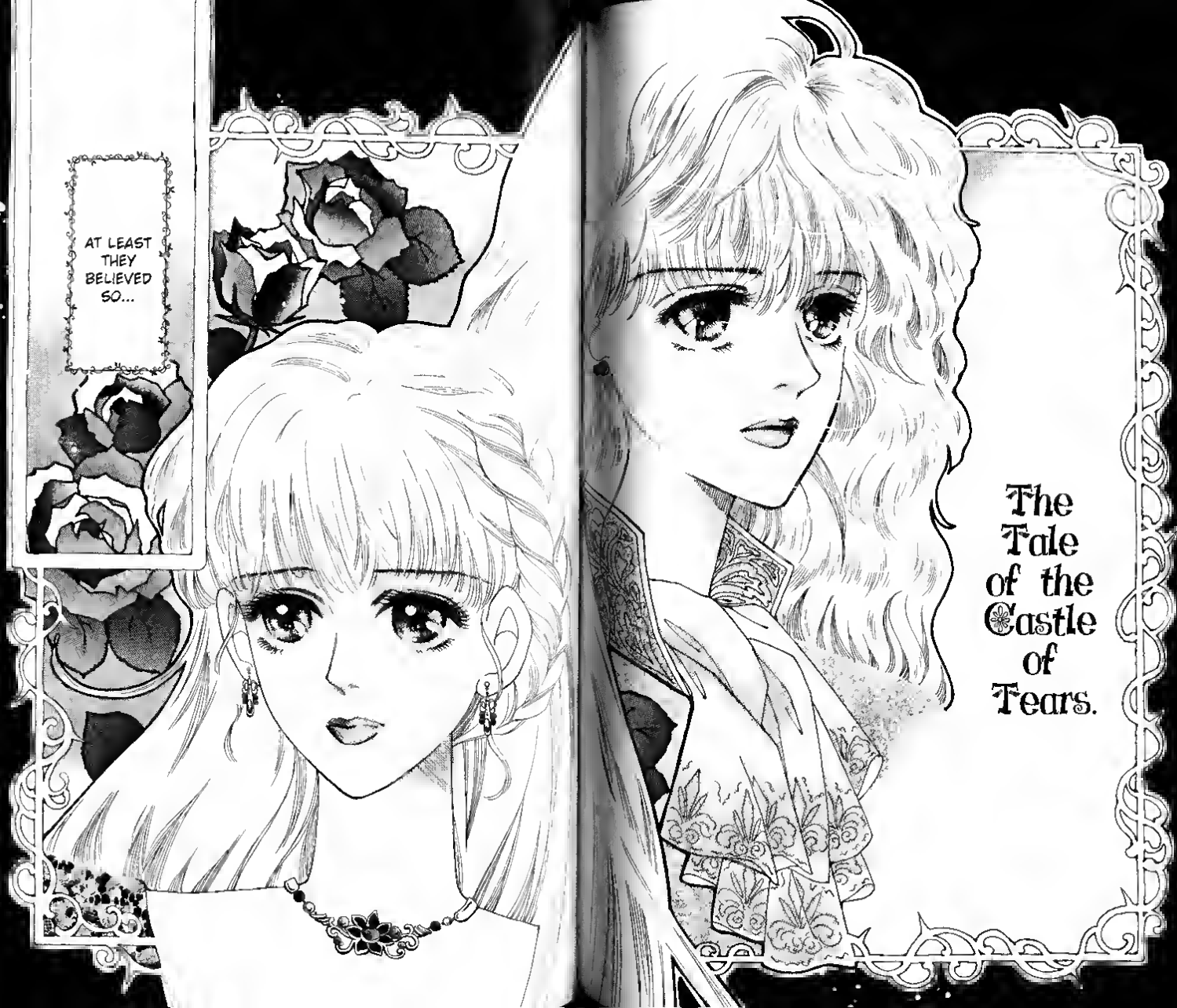
I GUESS EVEN SOMEONE AS CLUELESS AS THAT CAN BE OF SOME USE.
Sigh
SQUEEZE
HE'S SEIZING THE MOMENT, EH?
WELL, CAN'T BLAME HIM
I'M SO GLAD TO SEE HIM BACK TO HIS OLD SELF.
SURROUNDED BY ALL THOSE GIRLS, I'M SURE HE WILL FORGET ABOUT HER IN NO TIME.
PRINCE MATTHEW, SO NICE TO SEE YOU, AGAIN.
HOW ARE YOU?

I WON-DER...
I THINK IT'S BECAUSE HE CAN'T FORGET...
...THAT HE NEEDS TO SURROUND HIMSELF WITH SO MANY GIRLS.
AFTER ALL, HE IS YOUR SON, FATHER...
I'M SURE HE WILL WAIT FOR HER FOR ALL ETERNITY.
PRINCE MATTHEW OF GEMSTONE...
...IS HAPPIEST WHEN SURROUNDED BY MANY GIRLS.

ONLY ONE PRECIOUS LOVE OF A MOMENT...
NOW SUNKEN IN A TREASURE CHEST AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE ...
WAITING FOR ANOTHER CHANCE...
THE TIME WHEN IT WILL BURN BRIGHTLY AGAIN...

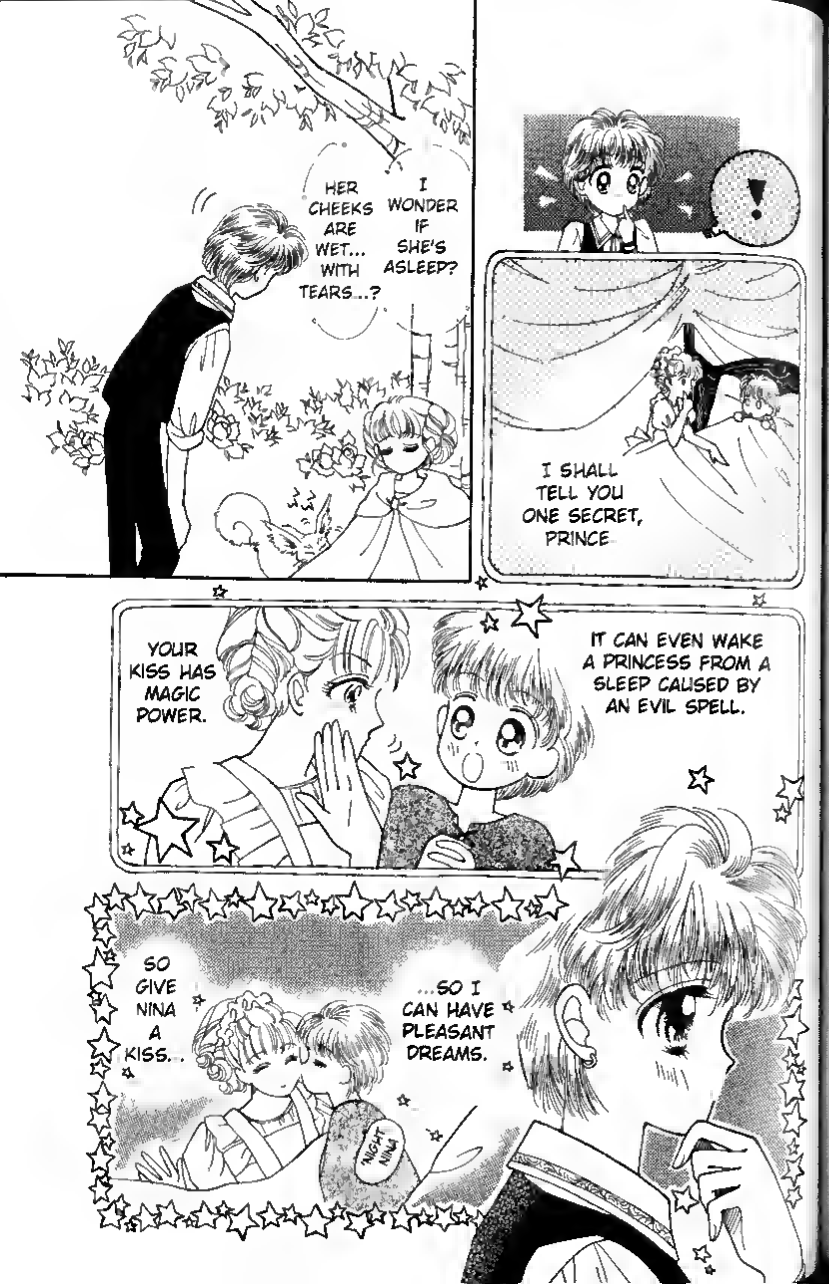


LONG, LONG AGO, THERE LIVED A PRINCE AND A PRINCESS...
...IN THE CASTLE OF TEARS, SURROUNDED BY DEEP GREEN WOODS.
SO LONG AS THEY WERE TOGETHER
...THEY COULD OVERCOME ANY HARDSHIP.


AT LEAST THEY BELIEVED SO...
The Tale of the Castle of Tears.

WAIT UP, CHEZ!
CRUNCH!
CRUNCH!
pitter
patter
dash

MIII!!
BITE
WHAT? WHAT DID YOU FIND?
..WHO'S THAT...?


I WONDER IF SHE'S ASLEEP?
HER CHEEKS ARE WET... WITH TEARS...?
!
I SHALL TELL YOU ONE SECRET, PRINCE
YOUR KISS HAS MAGIC POWER.
IT CAN EVEN WAKE A PRINCESS FROM A SLEEP CAUSED BY AN EVIL SPELL.
SO GIVE NINA A KISS..
...SO I CAN HAVE PLEASANT DREAMS.
NIGHT NINA

I WONDER IF WHAT NINA SAID IS TRUE...
...IF I CAN AWAKEN HER WITH MY KISS?
I HAVEN'T KISSED HER YET!
BL
INK

err
...
THE FLOWERS SMELLED SO GOOD, I FOLLOWED THEIR SCENT.
BUT I GOT LOST AND TIRED SO I FELL ASLEEP.
I'M LUPHIA.
I'M IRVIN. THIS IS MY GARDEN.
IS THAT YOU?
RUSTLE!
LADY LUPHIA, HERE YOU ARE!
HUH?

sorry
I WAS WORRIED. YOU SUDDENLY DISAP-PEARED.
Smile
AND SO LUPHIA CAME TO LIVE IN THE CASTLE FROM THAT DAY ON.
AFTER HER PARENTS DIED,
SHE WAS TAKEN IN BY HER DISTANT RELATIVES, THE TEARS.
SHE AND IRVIN BECAME FRIENDS INSTANTLY.

IRVIN!
CLANK!
IRVIN!
AARON, WHERE IS IRVIN?
MOTHER, I THINK IRVIN IS IN HIS GARDEN.
SKIPPING HIS SWORD LESSONS AGAIN?
HE USES HIS SWORD TO CUT GRASS...
...AND TO TAKE THE THORNS OFF ROSES.
NO WONDER IT RUSTS QUICKLY.
giggle
IRVIN!
FIANCÉE?
LUPHIA IS MY FIANCÉE?!
WELL YES, YOU TWO ARE JUST ABOUT OLD ENOUGH FOR THE ANNOUNCE-MENT OF MARRIAGE.
SNIFF

AARON!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY BIG BROTHER IS ENGAGED.
YOUR FACE IS STILL ALL RED
BUT DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE?
LUPHIA HAS NO FAMILY...
...AND I THINK IT WAS PLANNED FROM THE BEGINNING.
I'VE OVERHEARD THE CHAMBER-LAINS TALKING ONCE.
FATHER WANTED TO TAKE OVER LUPHIA'S COUNTRY...
...SO HER COUNTRY AVOIDED A WAR BY GIVING LUPHIA TO US TO BE YOUR BRIDE.
THEY GAVE HER TO US AS THEIR PROMISE THAT THEY WOULD NOT BETRAY US.
THEN THAT MAKES HER A HOSTAGE

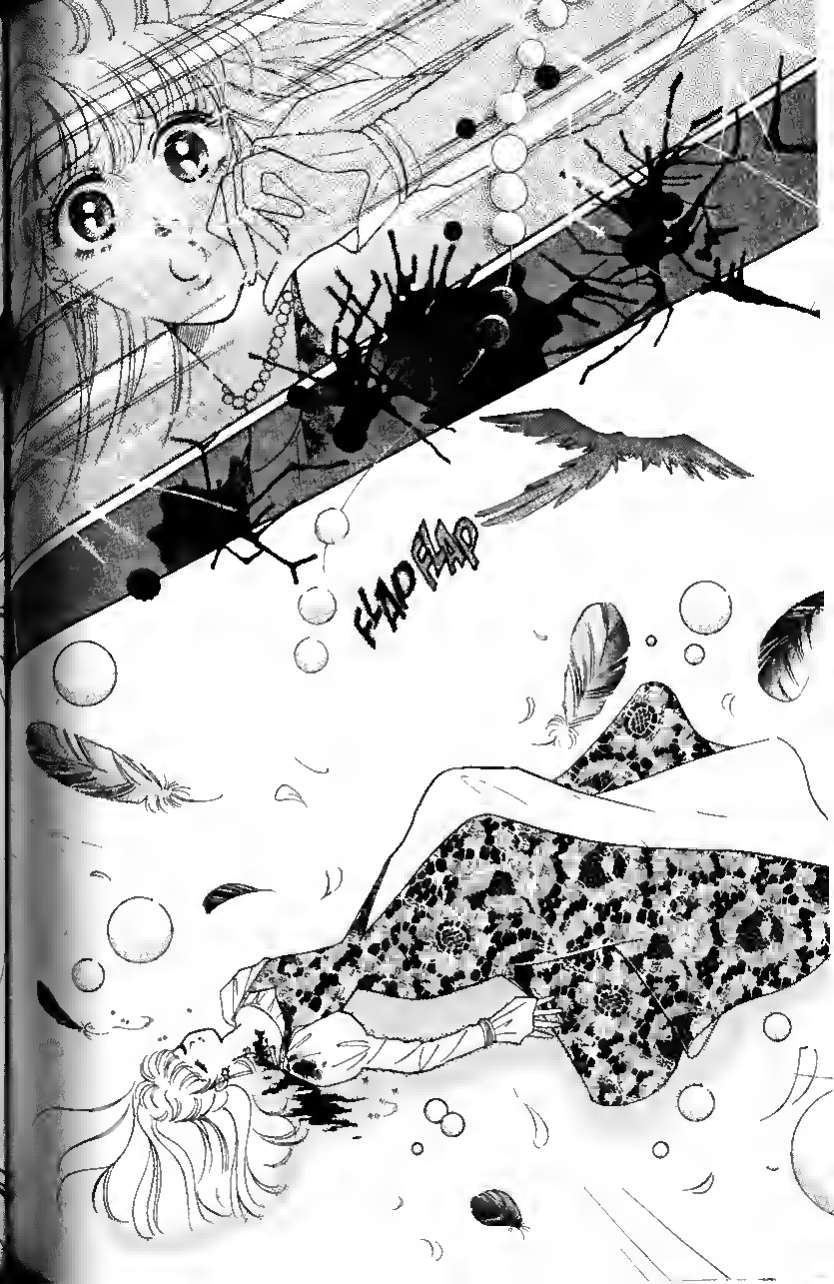
SO THEN...
...HER PARENTS DIDN'T DIE WAS IT A LIE?
LUPHIA, YOU KNEW ALL ALONG THAT WE WERE TO BE MARRIED...
...DIDN'T YOU, EVER SINCE YOU CAME HERE?
WHEN I FIRST SAW YOU HERE IN THE GAR-DEN
...YOUR CHEEKS WERE WET WITH TEARS...
YES. I WAS ONLY A CHILD, BUT I KNEW... WHAT WAS GOING ON...

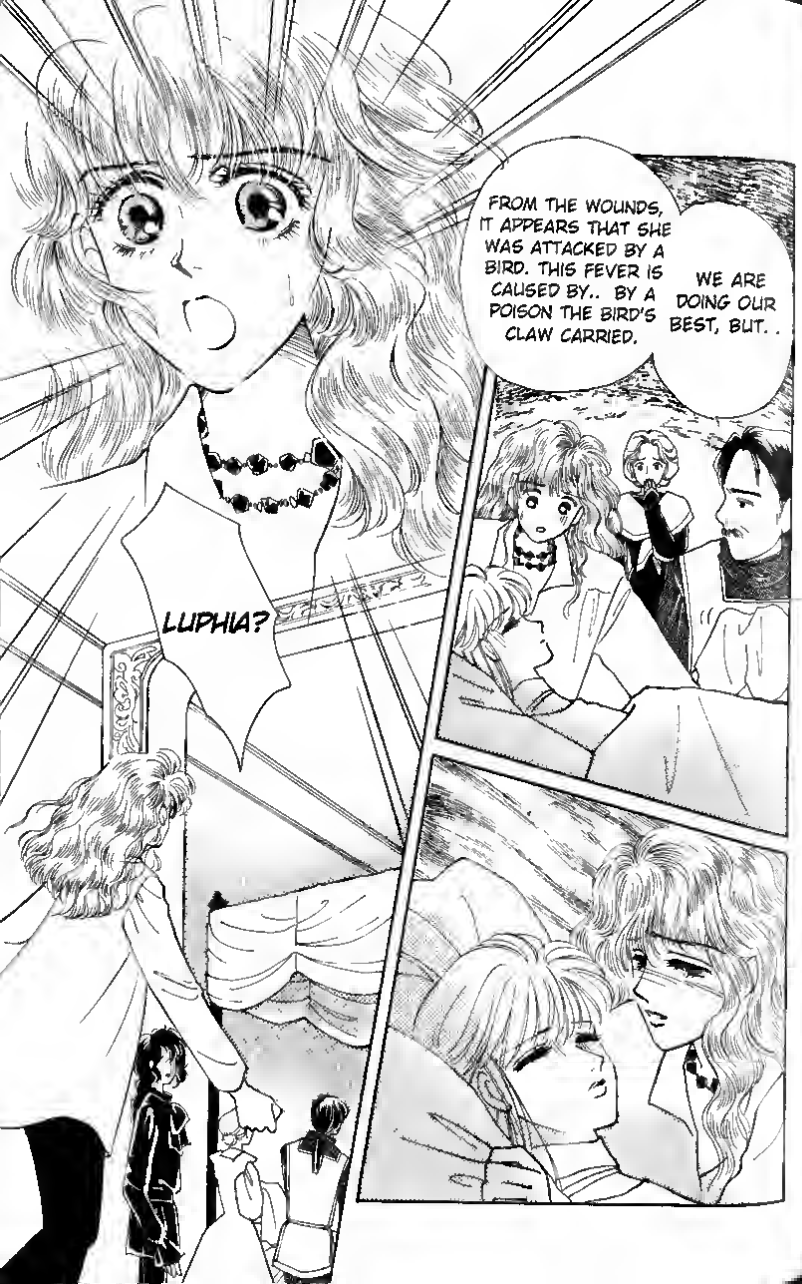
...THAT I WAS BEING TORN AWAY FROM MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY...
...TO MARRY A PRINCE I HAD NEVER MET....
I WAS TRYING TO RUN AWAY, AND GOT LOST IN THE GARDEN...
BUT WHEN I SAW YOU, I KNEW RIGHT AWAY THAT YOU WERE THAT PRINCE.
IS THAT YOU?
SO I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING..

IT'S ALRIGHT, IRVIN...
I'VE BEEN HAPPY SINCE I CAME HERE..
...SINCE THE DAY I MET YOU.

UNTIL ONE DAY, A MESSENGER FLEW INTO THE CASTLE.
flap flap
EVERYONE BELIEVED THAT THEIR'S WAS A HAPPINESS ETERNAL.
IT'S A SPELL THAT, FROM NOW ON...
...NO MATTER WHAT.
CAN I DO IT NOW?
THAT DAY... I WAS TRYING TO PUT A SPELL ON YOU.
...THE MAGIC SPELL PROMISES TO MAKE YOU HAPPY

ARE YOU THE HAPPIEST PRINCESS IN THE CASTLE?
SWOOSH
YES...
I AM THE HAPPIEST...


FLAP FLAP


FROM THE WOUNDS, IT APPEARS THAT SHE WAS ATTACKED BY A BIRD. THIS FEVER IS CAUSED BY.. BY A POISON THE BIRD'S CLAW CARRIED.
WE ARE DOING OUR BEST, BUT. .
LUPHIA?

FOR DAYS ...
... LUPHIA'S FEVER RAGED.
BROTHER... ABOUT LUPHIA'S ILLNESS...

THE DAY LUPHIA WAS ATTACKED, SOMEONE SAW A BIG BLACK BIRD.
IT PROBABLY LIVES IN THE VALLEY OF THE GOBLIN OF DARKNESS.
THIS MUST BE THE WORK OF THE GOBLIN OF THE DARKNESS.
I'VE GOT TO GO SEE IT.
I MUST GO TO THE VALLEY OF THE GOBLIN OF DARKNESS!
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
BROTHER, NO! EVEN THE STRONGEST WARRIORS DON'T ALWAYS MAKE IT BACK FROM THE VALLEY!
BUT IF HER FEVER CONTINUES LIKE THIS...
...SHE WON'T LIVE.
IF THAT SHOULD BE, THEN I WOULD RATHER DIE IN THE VALLEY.
AARON, IF I DON'T RETURN, THE CASTLE WILL BECOME YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.
WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE BOTH PRINCES OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO USE A SWORD. I CAN'T LET YOU GO ALONE.
I'LL GO WITH YOU.

IS LUPHIA THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU?
FLAP FLAP
THE PRINCE WHO USED TO BE THE HAPPIEST MAN AT THE CASTLE OF TEARS.
snicker
THE MASTER AWAITS YOU.
PLEASE, THIS WAY.

WEL-
COME,
BEAUTI-
FUL
PRINCE.
WIPE!
WIPE!
PLEASE
FORGIVE
THE
DARKNESS.
MY
UGLINESS...
..IS
UNBEAR-
ABLE
IN THE
LIGHT.
IT SEEMS
THAT YOUR
BIRD
WOUNDED MY
PRINCESS.
I BELIEVE
YOU CAN
HEAL HER.
THIS
BIRD
S SO
ALOUS.
IT HEARD
ABOUT THE
HAPPINESS
IN YOUR
CASTLE AND
JUST
COULDN'T
STAND IT.
PLEASE
HELP
US.
WILL YOU
GIVE ME
ANYTHING
I WANT?
ANY-
THING...
YES!!
EVEN MY
LIFE...
I WANT...
...YOUR
BEAUTY.

IF YOU GIVE IT TO ME...
...I WILL GIVE YOUR PRINCESS ETERNAL LIFE.
Breathe.
LUPHIA'S FEVER HAS SUBSIDED.
BROTHER... HAVE YOU BEATEN THE GOBLIN OF DARKNESS?
PLEASE COME HOME SAFELY...!!

PRINCE IRVIN HAS RETURNED!
IRVIN, WE WERE SO WORRIED.
Meow
Pitter Patter
tok tok
purr meow
HE'S BROKEN THE SPIRIT'S SPELL AND RETURNED!
IRVIN
Hm?!
SLIP

FAINT..
IRVIN
AAAHHHH!!!
SWOOSH
WAIT.

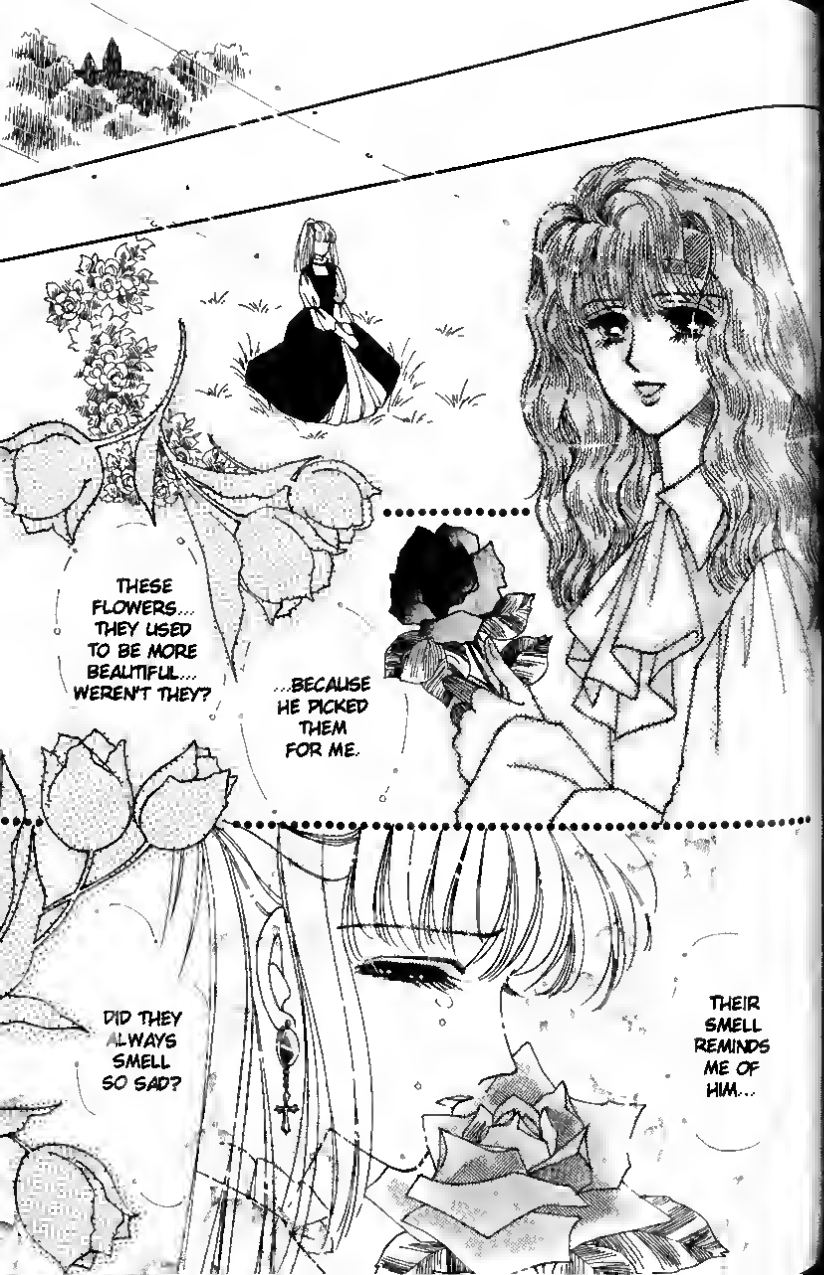
WELCOME HOME... LOOK, CHEZ WANTS A GOOD CUDDLE.
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HOME.
LUPHIA'S JUST BEGINNING TO GET BETTER.
SHE WAS JUST A BIT SHOCKED.

SO BROTHER MADE A DEAL WITH THE GOBLIN OF DARKNESS...
NO MATTER HOW DIFFERENT HE MAY APPEAR, THE FACT THAT ALL OF HIS ANIMALS STILL LOVE HIM IS PROOF...
...THAT HE REALLY IS IRVIN.
BUT HE STAYS AWAY BECAUSE ...
...HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE SEEN BY YOU.
I KNOW...
HE DID THIS FOR YOU!

IRVIN...
I'M SORRY...
YOU DID THIS FOR ME...
LU...

...PHI...
AH!
Wha!
Gasp...
drip...
I-I'M SORRY...
HERE, LET ME...
IRVIN!!
WHY...?
WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?

WE WERE SO HAPPY...!!
AND THE PRINCE NEVER RETURNED TO THE CASTLE.


THESE FLOWERS... THEY USED TO BE MORE BEAUTIFUL... WEREN'T THEY?
...BECAUSE HE PICKED THEM FOR ME.
DID THEY ALWAYS SMELL SO SAD?
THEIR SMELL REMINDS ME OF HIM...

SINCE IRVIN IS NO LONGER WITH US, AARON, YOU MUST TAKE OVER THE CASTLE...
...WITH LUPHIA AS YOUR QUEEN.
NOT WITH HER!! SHE'S THE ONE WHO DID THIS TO IRVIN!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO, AARON? I CAN'T EVEN GO BACK TO MY OWN COUNTRY...

IF YOU'VE GOT TIME TO SIT AND CRY,
WHY DON'T YOU GO LOOK FOR MY BROTHER? YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GET HIM TO COME BACK.
BUT WHERE?
YOU FIGURE IT OUT BY YOURSELF!

Rustle Rustle
YOU!
FROM THAT TIME...
WELCOME, TEARS' MOST HATED...
...AND UNHAPPY PRINCESS!
AAAH
SWING
WAIT!!

IRVIN?
I TRADED HIS BEAUTY...
...FOR ETERNAL LIFE FOR YOU.
...THE GOBLIN OF DARKNESS WHO STOLE IRVIN'S BEAUTY.
NO!! LOOKS JUST LIKE HIM BUT...
THIS MUST BE...

ETERNAL LIFE?
I WILL GIVE YOU BACK MY LIFE, SO PLEASE, GIVE HIM BACK HIS BEAUTY.
I CAN'T DO THAT. YOU SEE, I LIKE THE WAY I LOOK NOW.
BESIDES...
YOU THINK HE'S STILL ALIVE?
TSK...
I NEVER...
...WANTED TO LIVE FOREVER.

SHALL I TELL YOU WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE FOREVER?
IT MEANS YOU HAVE TO FOREVER SEE...
...THE DEATHS OF YOUR FAMILY...
...OVER AND OVER AGAIN, ALWAYS.
I FEEL YOUR PAIN...
... EVERY TIME YOU GRIEVE.
AND THAT IS WHAT BRINGS ME PLEASURE.
A FITTING FATE FOR THE WOMAN WHO TRAMPLED ...
...ON THE HEART OF THE PRINCE SHE LOVES.
I WILL FIND HIM, MY IRVIN...

I TOLD YOU, HE MAY ALREADY BE DEAD.
EVEN IF HE IS DEAD...
I WILL FIND HIM...
...SINCE I WILL LIVE FOREVER...
...I WILL FIND HIM, NO MATTER WHERE OR WHAT HE IS REBORN AS.
...AND THEN...
...I WILL GUARD HIS HAPPINESS...
Grandpa Pierce...
Here, for you
NO MATTER WHAT HE COMES BACK AS...
...FOREVER.
...I WILL...

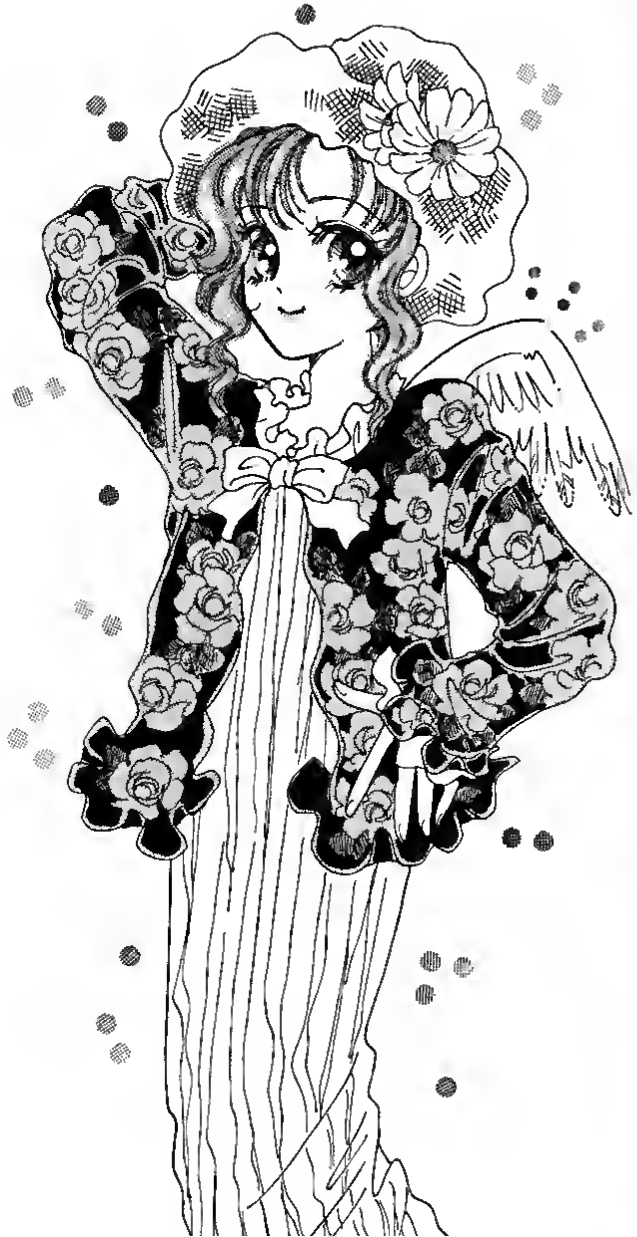
...FIND HIM.
AND SO NOW, ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS LATER...
...THE PRINCESS IS STILL SEARCHING FOR HER PRINCE.
MIKEY!
REALLY? AND DOES THE CASTLE OF TEARS STILL EXIST?

MOMMY!
THE SUN IS GETTING STRONG. WHY DON'T YOU GO INSIDE?
WE WERE JUST LISTENING TO THE LADY TELL US A SAD STORY ABOUT A CASTLE.
SHE'S A TRAVELLER JUST PASSING THROUGH.
REALLY? ...OH NO!
GET INSIDE, YOU'RE GETTING ALL RED.
DON'T SCRATCH!
Come!

EXCUSE ME...
OH, THE TRAVELLER.
I'M SORRY, WHEN HE'S IN THE SUN FOR TOO LONG...
...HE SWELLS UP AND HE GETS BLOTCHES...
BLOTCHES...!?
IS THAT YOU?

COME ALONG NOW!
Yes, Mom!
LONG, LONG AGO..

...WHOSE LOVE WAS SO GREAT IT SURPASSED TIME.
...THERE LIVED A PRINCE AND A PRINCESS...



Princess Prince

Emma's story

Part One

YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
IT'S WINTER IN GEMSTONE. THEY DON'T HAVE ANY FRUIT NOW.
THAT'S WHY I'M TAKING IT.
I WANT TO GIVE IT TO PRINCE LAWRENCE
SO IT IS TRUE THAT YOU HAVE THE HOTS FOR A HUMAN PRINCE.
BUT I BET HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW YOU EXIST.
You're so little you can fit in the palm of a human
BUT WHEN I BECOME A GROWN UP I WILL BE AS BIG AS MOMMY AND SHE'S HUMAN SIZE!
Prick
Mom
GRR
BUT MOMMY IS...
...200 IN HUMAN YEARS!
Wh-at?
THEN BY THE TIME EMMA BECOMES A GROWN UP...
...PRINCE LAWRENCE...
...MIGHT BE AN OLD MAN...
...OR MORE LIKELY...
!!

GEMSTONE KINGDOM
JENNY'S HERE!!
GLIDE
GLIDE
EMMA, WHY ARE YOU FLYING AROUND BOTHERING US?
And then

plunk
plunk
OW.
YOU'RE THE ONE TREATING ME LIKE I'M IN THE WAY!!
WHAT THE ..? THAT HURT!
Kyaa!
HELP!!
Waqn!
Meaw!
Cut It Out Viv!
EMMA, DID YOU BRING THESE FOR LAWRENCE?
Ark Matthew understands how women think
WHO CARES! HE'S ALWAYS ALL OVER JENNY
EMMA ALWAYS GETS TREATED LIKE DIRT.
BUT THAT'S BECAUSE YOU BOTHER THEM, ISN'T IT?

EMMA, GO AND PROTECT THE PRINCES.
WHEN I FI
CAME HER
UNDER MO
ORDERS..
IT
LOVE
FIRS
SIGH
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS?
IF YOU WERE A HUMAN GIRL...
...LAWRENCE MIGHT HAVE PAID MORE ATTENTION TO YOU.
IF ONLY...
I WAS
HUMAN.
WHAT! MAGIC TO TURN INTO A HUMAN!?

AND THERE'S AN ANGEL BIRD WHO IS STILL PRETENDING TO BE HUMAN
HEH HEH
THERE ARE A FEW OF THEM...
...BUT THE HUMANS DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA.
THERE ARE OTHERS ...
... IN LOVE WITH HUMANS.
THROB THROB
I WONDER IF THEIR DREAMS CAME TRUE?
MOMMY PLEASE!
TURN EMMA INTO A HUMAN!
OK EMMA ...
...BUT YOU CAN'T LET THE HUMANS KNOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE.
THE HUMANS CAN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS MAGIC.
OTHERWISE IT WILL CAUSE TROUBLE FOR OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE PRETENDING TO BE HUMAN.

IF ANYONE FINDS OUT THAT YOU'RE REALLY EMMA...
...THE MAGIC WILL WEAR OFF, AND ANY MEMORIES OF THE TIME THEY SPENT WITH YOU WILL BE ERASED.
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
YES, I DO!!
EMMA THE ANGEL BIRD IS NOTHING BUT A PAIN TO LAWRENCE ANYWAY!
I'M GONNA BECOME HUMAN...
...AND LAWRENCE IS GOING TO FALL IN LOVE WITH ME!!
I HAVE AN AUNT WHO LIVES IN THE NEXT COUNTRY OVER SHE'S SICK SO I'M GOING TO HELP TAKE CARE OF HER DURING THE WINTER
I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE YOU, SO I'LL BE BORED BUT..
WHAT, JENNY?!
I CAN'T SEE YOU FOR AWHILE!?
...IF YOU HAPPEN TO BE IN THE AREA...
... COME AND SEE ME
HOW BORING!
Blah Blah
THEN WHY DON'T YOU HANG OUT WITH EMMA?
She's Lonely.

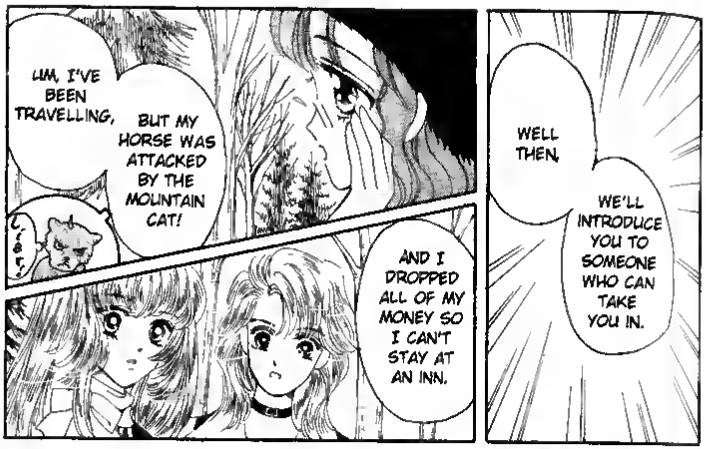
Huh?
BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE MORNING.
Yeah, that's true.
MAYBE SHE GOT UPSET AND TOOK OFF SOME-WHERE.
Shame now that Jenny's gone, she won't be in the way
06
HEY, LET'S RACE THE HORSES!
A good run will blow off steam
THAT'LL GO OVER WELL WITH FATHER
LORI! WHY ARE YOU PLAYING SO ROUGH?!
HERE HE COMES!
CLOP CLOP
BYE BYE!
AGH! Lori is getting more and more manly by the day
I WAS GOING TO HAVE LORI WEAR THIS DRESS
Flutter Flutter

Eek! Help!
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A LITTLE HARD FOR ME TO KEEP PRETENDING TO BE A GIRL?
I'M GETTING MORE MUSCULAR, AND SOON I'LL NEED TO SHAVE
AND YOU'VE GOT BROAD SHOULDERS.
H.H. H.H.
!!
THE CRIES OF A BEAUTY! LET'S GO!
AND IF IT ISN'T A BEAUTY, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
TURN BACK!
Just Kidding!

Grrr...
A BEAUTY!
Here ya go!

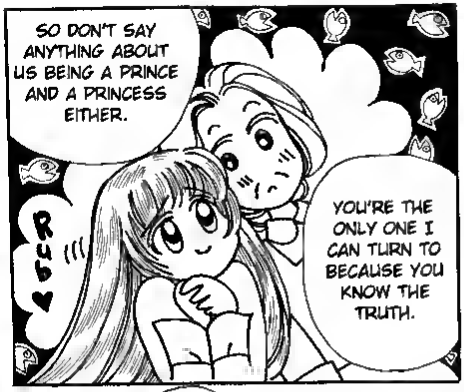
GET LOST!
EEK, OH NO!
GRR!
SCREECH
HMM
ARE YOU OKAY?

Pfe3~
NOT BEING ABLE TO FLY REALLY SUCKS.
What a huge Mountain Cat
HUH, WHAT?
oooo
Oh nothing
THANK YOU VERY MUCH UM..
I'M LO...
...LAWRENCE THIS IS MY BROTHER MATHEW. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
WHAT?! LAWRENCE?
Wow!
UM.
YES!!
I'M AMY
HE HAS NO IDEA WHO I AM!!
AMY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE FOREST ALL BY YOURSELF?
LAWRENCE.
HE'S NOT PRETENDING TO BE A GIRL.
BUT.
HA HA HA HA HA
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR A GIRL TO BE ALONE HERE.
HE'S TREATING ME SO DIFFERENTLY THAN NORMAL!!
A display of total manliness (or → so he thinks)
...
Grr...
Puffed out chest
THIS IS WAY BETTER!!


UM, I'VE BEEN TRAVELLING,
BUT MY HORSE WAS ATTACKED BY THE MOUNTAIN CAT!
AND I DROPPED ALL OF MY MONEY SO I CAN'T STAY AT AN INN.
WELL THEN,
WE'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO SOMEONE WHO CAN TAKE YOU IN.

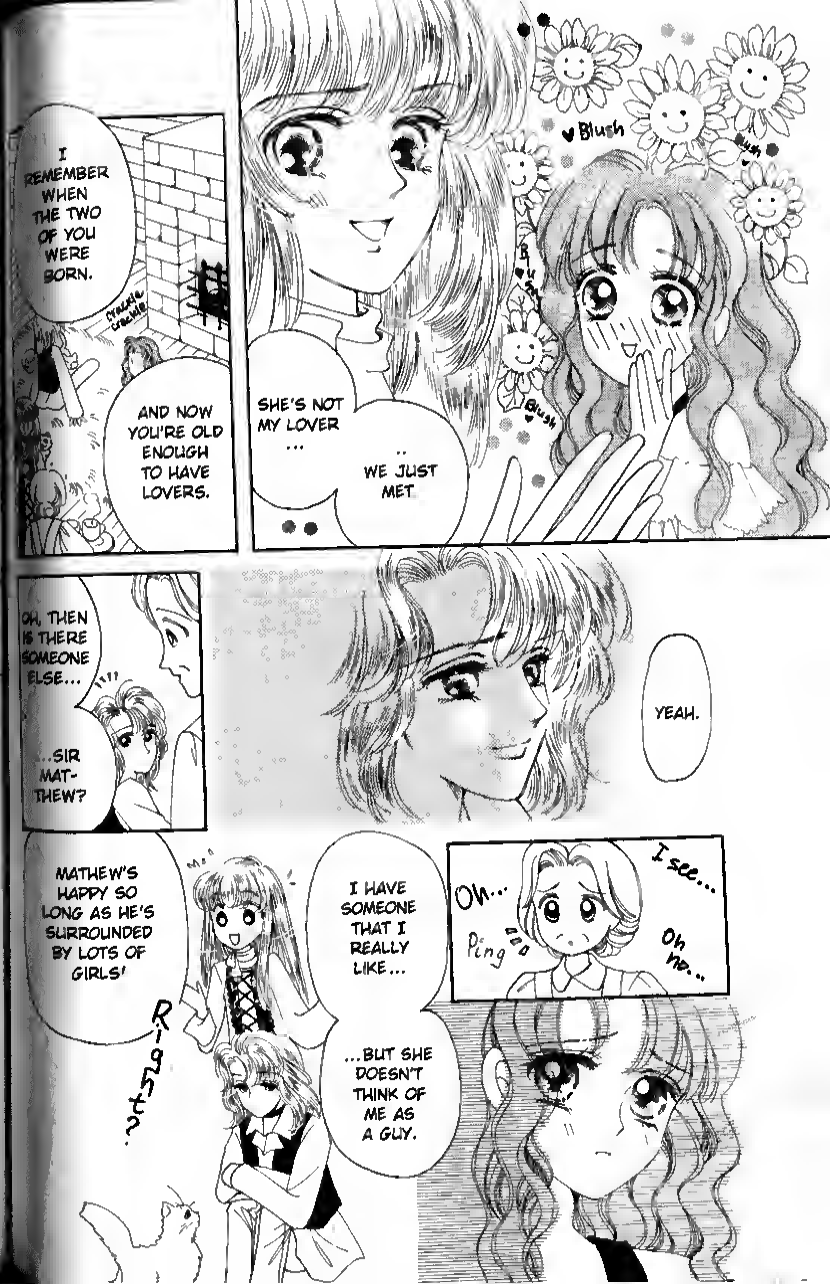
YES?
knock knock
OH LORI, YOUR HIGHNESS?
Matthew highness too?
It's Been So Long!
YOU LOOK GREAT, GRANDMA!
I NEED A FAVOR.
I WANT YOU TO LET A GIRL STAY HERE.
BUT IN FRONT OF HER, I'M A GUY, OK?
Re-what...
WAIT!

YOUR FATHER WON'T BE HAPPY ABOUT THAT!
Grr!


SO DON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT US BEING A PRINCE AND A PRINCESS EITHER.
Right
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I CAN TURN TO BECAUSE YOU KNOW THE TRUTH.

I WANT TO HANG OUT WITH A GIRL AS A GUY FROM TIME TO TIME.
Sniff
POOR LAWRENCE.
OKAY. I WAS AGAINST THIS TO BEGIN WITH.
THANK YOU!!
WELCOME, YOUNG LADY.
PLEASE STAY AS LONG AS YOU LIKE
mew

CATS!
Meow
meow
OH, YOU DON'T LIKE CATS? COME TO THINK OF IT, WE HAVE SOMEONE AT HOME WHO DOESN'T LIKE CATS.
ZHHH
(sound of goose bumps)
ALL THESE CATS!!
WELL DUH, THAT'S BECAUSE SHE'S A BIRD.
shake
rub
sniff
OH, THAT'S NOT IT AT ALL.
Don't like cats
I JUST HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT.
THEY MIGHT FIGURE OUT WHO I AM.
I WONDER IF SHE'S OKAY.
About to faint
I THINK THINGS ARE GOING WELL SO FAR THEY HAVEN'T FIGURED IT OUT YET.


I REMEMBER WHEN THE TWO OF YOU WERE BORN.
crying crying
AND NOW YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO HAVE LOVERS.
♥Blush
SHE'S NOT MY LOVER ...
.. WE JUST MET
OH, THEN IS THERE SOMEONE ELSE...
...SIR MATTHEW?
YEAH.
MATHEW'S HAPPY SO LONG AS HE'S SURROUNDED BY LOTS OF GIRLS!
I HAVE SOMEONE THAT I REALLY LIKE...
...BUT SHE DOESN'T THINK OF ME AS A GUY.
Oh...
I see...
Oh no...
Ping
Rrrg??

IF THIS GIRL CAN'T EVEN SEE HOW ATTRACTIVE YOU ARE...
...SHE MUST HAVE AWFUL TASTE!
HA HA
BLUSH
whisk
UH,
YOU THINK?
WAIT A MINUTE ...
WHO'S THIS GIRL HE'S TALKING ABOUT?!

HEY, EMMA!
CLIP CLOP
WE'LL COME TO SEE YOU AGAIN TOMORROW.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!
YOU NEVER TOLD US THE PRINCE LIKES ANOTHER GIRL!!
AND? SO WHAT?
YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
YOU CAN'T COME BETWEEN THEM!

WHY NOT? THEY AREN'T TOGETHER YET.
BESIDES, SHE THINKS LAWRENCE IS A GIRL.
BUT...
THERE'S NO WAY. HE LIKES SOMEONE ELSE
I WOULDN'T DO IT.
WHO CARES...
...ABOUT THAT.
WHO CARES ...
...IF HE LIKES SOMEONE ELSE. .
ANG
GOOD MORNING AMY! THERE'S SNOW ON THE GROUND!
AH, FLYING IN THE SNOW.
I'D BE SO MUCH FUN.
HUH?
POPS!

IF I COULD FLY, THAT IS.
float
FOR A SECOND
IT REALLY SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE GOING TO FLY AWAY
...SEE...
I'M SURE IT'S FINE.
©cuddle
SPEAKING OF FLYING, ONE OF OUR LITTLE BIRDS HASN'T COME HOME.
I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED.

I...
I HOPE SO.
SQUEEZE...
EH HEH! I COULDN'T DO THIS FOR SO LONG.
IT FEELS SO GOOD TO BE TREATED LIKE A GUY.
WOW, IT'S FROZEN OVER.
SKIING
HEY YOU.
HA HA HA
UM. IT MAY BE NONE OF MY BUSINESS, BUT...
HE LIKES SOMEONE ELSE...
...BUT SHE'S AWAY RIGHT NOW.
SO I SHOULDN'T FALL FOR HIM.
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME THAT TOO?
MY FRIENDS SAID THE SAME THING. WHY?
THEY AREN'T TOGETHER YET, ARE THEY?
AND EVEN IF THEY WERE...

WHAT'S WRONG WITH FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ...
...WHO LIKES SOME-ONE ELSE?
MY FEELINGS ARE JUST AS STRONG AS ANYONE ELSE'S!!
I CAN'T HELP IT.
AMY...
YOU'RE NOT THE KIND OF PERSON WHO IS AFRAID OF THINGS LIKE THIS.
WITH YOUR COURAGE ...
I JUST DON'T WANT YOU TO GET HURT.
...I'M SORRY.

YOUR WISHES ...
...MIGHT COME TRUE SOME-DAY
HE HAS THE "STONE OF POWER."
WHISPER
WHISPER
MAKE HIM FALL IN THE LAKE.
AH!
THERE IS SOMETHING UNDER THE ICE!?

WHAT SHOULD I DO? I NEED TO LET THEM KNOW.
UM...
BUT IF I TELL THEM, THEY'LL KNOW WHO I AM.
U-UM. LAWRENCE.
HMM?
CRACK
!
WATCH OUT!!

SPLASH
LAWRENCE!!
CREAK

DAMN!
クンズ
HA HA HA!
Splash
I HAVE TO HELP HIM...
BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO?
MY WINGS ...
IF I COULD FLY...
...IT WOULD BE SO EASY.
MOMMY, GIVE THEM BACK TO ME!!
AMY!?

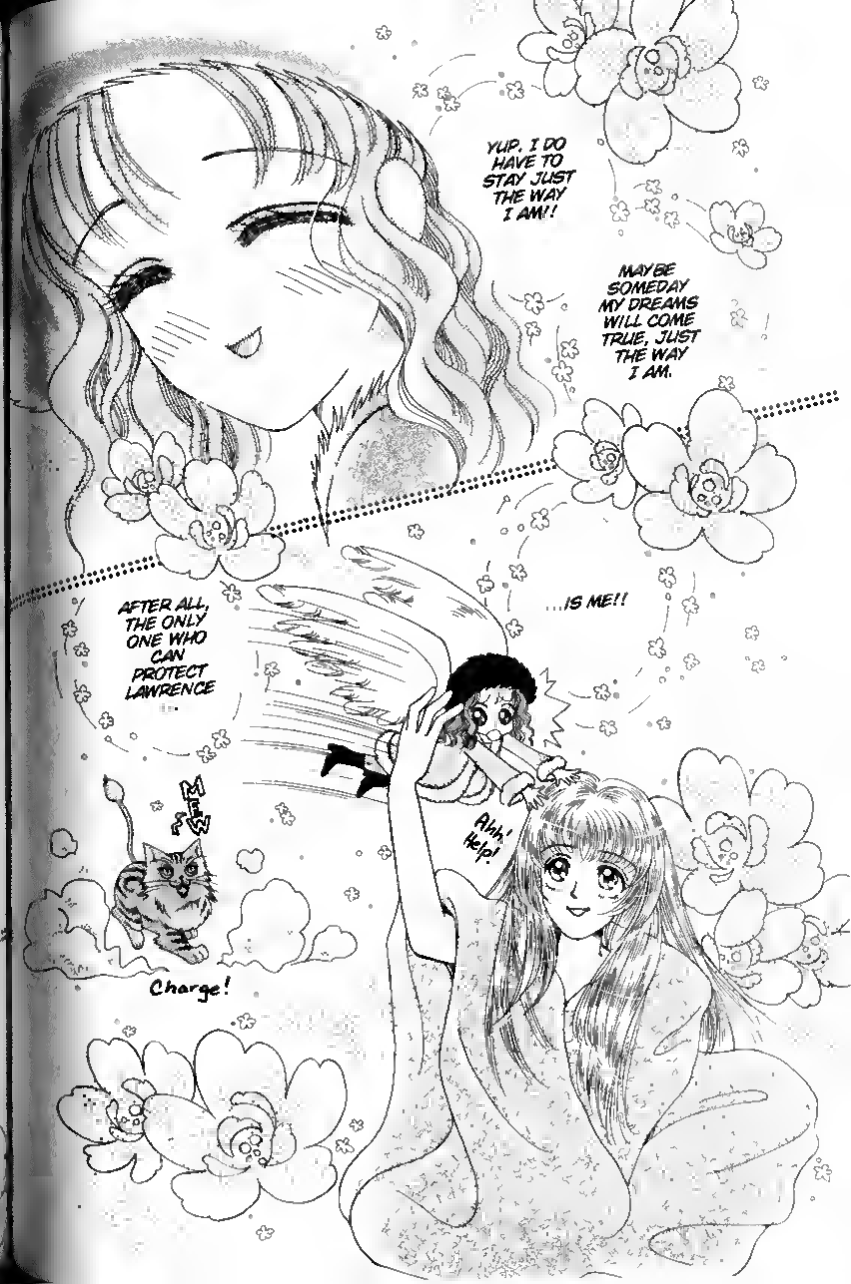
I CAME TO PROTECT YOU...
THAT IS MY DUTY...
E...
GRAB
Oh no!
An angel bird!
LAWRENCE...
ARE YOU OKAY?!

EMMA!?
Gulp
EMMA..?
WINGS?
Poof
SNIP
COUGH
BWAGH!!
OUCH!!
ARE YOU OKAY?
IT'S COOOOLD.
Let's go home! How did you save me?
I don't know

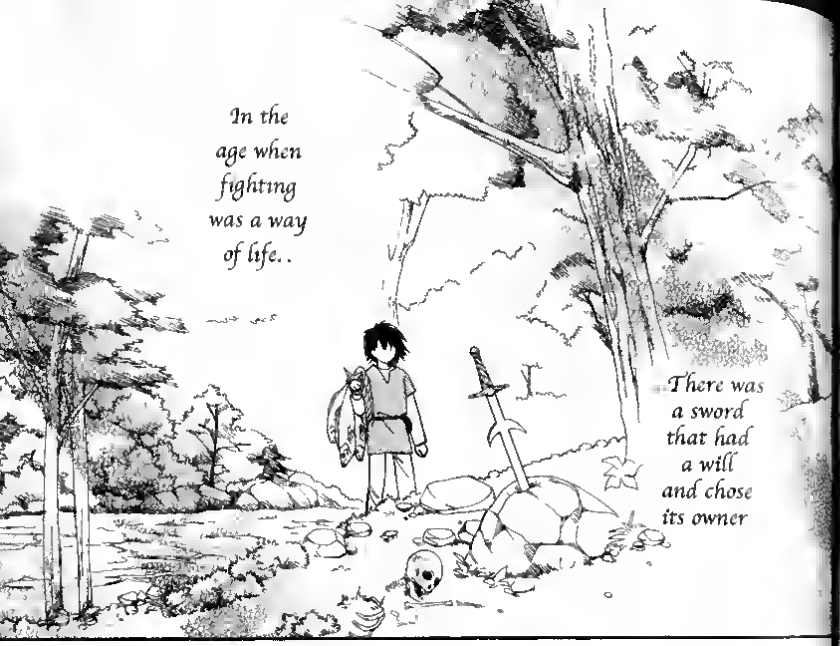
sniffle
There was a hole in their memories where Amy should have been
crackle crackle
sniff
I HAVE THIS FEELING THAT I'VE FOR-GOTTEN SOME-THING
I FEEL LIKE I'VE LOST SOME-THING
I FEEL SORT OF SAD
SOME-THING REALLY IMPOR-TANT.
I WONDER WHAT I LOST?
YEAH, ME TOO.
WHAT WAS IT?

FLAP... FLAP...
HEY EMMA!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
I WENT HOME FOR A BIT
THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD US!!
WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU!!
I thought a cat ate you
YOU DON'T NEED TO SCREAM!
ALL YOU EVER DO IS TREAT ME LIKE I'M IN THE WAY ANYWAY!!
BONK
OUCH
Here they go again

C'MON. HEY...
... SHE EVEN BROUGHT YOU A PRESENT.
...
SHE'S HERE!
I WAS REALLY WORRIED !!


YUP. I DO HAVE TO STAY JUST THE WAY I AM!
MAYBE SOMEDAY MY DREAMS WILL COME TRUE, JUST THE WAY I AM.
...IS ME!!
AFTER ALL, THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PROTECT LAWRENCE
Meow
Charge!
Ahh! Help!

-DURGA-


In the age when fighting was a way of life..
There was a sword that had a will and chose its owner

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL SWORD.
WOW, IT'S STUCK IN THIS ROCK.
!!
Slide

FATHER, MOTHER ...
... I FOUND AN INCREDIBLE SWORD.

FATHER ...
MOTHER ...
GRIP...

Waaah!
STAB
UGGGH.
IT'S OK
I'M WITH YOU.

!!
KID!
CLANG
FIGHT!!
WHA!!
IF YOU DON'T FIGHT...
...YOU'LL BE KILLED.
REVENGE.
GET EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM!!

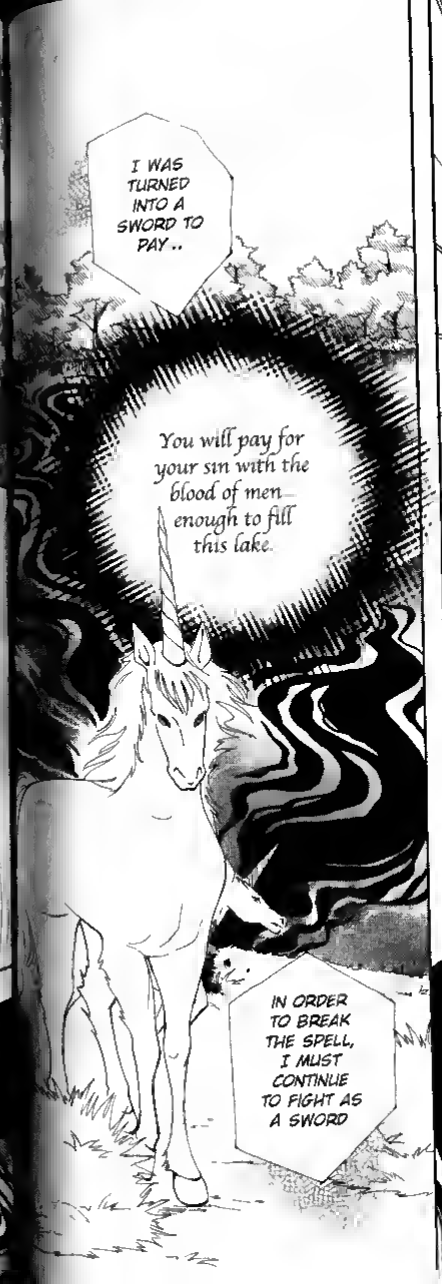
TO LIVE...
Whaah!
clank
clank
I BEAT THEM ALL ...
...FATHER, MOTHER.
IT'S OK...
...I WILL PROTECT YOU FROM NOW ON
DON'T LET GO OF ME.
..? UH-HUH

...FROM NOW ON, WE HAVE TO MAKE IT ON OUR OWN.
THERE'S NO TIME FOR TEARS.
...HEY.
Wah!
WE HAVE TO BE STRONG.
WE HAVE TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE
SETH...
...THEY'RE NOT CRYING AS MUCH ANYMORE.

THANK YOU...
SPIRIT OF THE SWORD...
... DO YOU HAVE A NAME?
MY NAME IS DURGA.
LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER.
BUT YOU CAN'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT ME
OK.
WE'LL FIGHT TOGETHER FOREVER
WOW

SETH!!
HELP!!
LARDA!!
SHOVE
SETH SAVED ME HE'S STRONG
NO MATTER WHO ATTACKS US, SO LONG AS HE IS HERE TO KEEP US GOING, THE VILLAGE IS SAFE.
WE'LL NEVER LET WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR PARENTS HAPPEN AGAIN
HEY, WHERE IS HE?
HE ALWAYS WANTS TO BE ALONE AFTER HE FIGHTS.
THANK YOU, DURGA.
FOR ALWAYS PROTECTING ME.
FOR PROTECTING ME AGAIN TODAY.
I'M FIGHTING WITH YOU BECAUSE I WANT TO BE WITH YOU FOREVER.
YOU KNOW ...
.. COMPARED TO THE FIRST TIME WE MET..

I CAN SEE YOU BETTER.
BUT,
WHY CAN'T I TOUCH YOU?
YOU'RE SO CLOSE
BUT I CAN'T EVEN HOLD YOU
YOU'VE GROWN UP, SETH ..
Blush
A LONG TIME AGO ...
... I KILLED A BABY UNICORN I HEARD THAT THE HORN WAS MEDICINE.
I DID IT TO CURE MY FAMILY


I WAS TURNED INTO A SWORD TO PAY ..
You will pay for your sin with the blood of men enough to fill this lake.
IN ORDER TO BREAK THE SPELL, I MUST CONTINUE TO FIGHT AS A SWORD

ONCE THE SPELL IS BROKEN, WILL YOU BECOME HUMAN AGAIN?
SEEMS SO...
THEN I'LL CHANGE YOU BACK
I JUST HAVE TO KEEP FIGHTING WITH THIS SWORD, RIGHT?!
THANK YOU SETH...

SETH! TROUBLE! A MESSENGER FROM THE LORD OF THE CASTLE WANTS TO SEE YOU!
YOU... ARE THE YOUNG MAN WHO SINGLE HANDEDLY AVENGED THE MURDERS OF ALL OF THE ADULTS IN YOUR VILLAGE?
WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN EXCEPTIONAL SWORDSMAN TO SERVE AS THE PRINCESS'S BODYGUARD.
IF YOU AGREE, WE WILL GIVE MONEY TO YOUR VILLAGE...
...AND WE WILL SEND SOLDIERS FROM THE CASTLE TO REPLACE YOU!
TO FIGHT IN EVEN MORE BATTLES.
Wha
UNTIL YOU BECOME HUMAN AGAIN...
...I WILL FIGHT.
PRINCESS, WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
PLEASE!
WHA!!
YOU, THE PRINCESS IS CALLING FOR YOU.

YOU'RE SETH?
I HEAR YOU'RE STRONG
I LIKE STRONG MEN.
YES.
COME_
PLEASE, STOP.
How dare he..!
I HEAR YOU TALK TO YOUR SWORD.
JUST LIKE IN THE MYTH ABOUT THE MAGIC SWORD THAT GRANDFATHER TOLD ME.
ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH THE SPIRIT OF YOUR SWORD?

IN ORDER TO BE FREED OF THE SPELL, THE SPIRIT OF THE SWORD NEEDS THE BLOOD OF MANY MEN.
THE SWORDSMAN WHO FALLS UNDER THE SPIRIT'S SPELL WINS EVERY BATTLE WITH THE SWORD
BUT IN THE END, WHEN THERE IS NO ONE LEFT TO FIGHT...
...THE SWORD STABS ITS OWNER.
AND IT MOVES ON TO THE NEXT STRONG SWORDSMAN.
THAT'S A LIE! DURGA WOULD NEVER DO THAT!
SO THIS IS THE SWORD?
WHY DON'T I TAKE CARE OF IT IF IT IS SO DANGER-OUS?
DON'T TOUCH IT!
Ah!

SO... YOU'RE ALREADY UNDER THE SPELL OF THE SWORD..
FINE, HAVE A LOVE AFFAIR WITH YOUR SWORD OR WHATEVER...
IT'S A SHAME TO TURN ME DOWN...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT A LIFE THAT IS NOTHING BUT FIGHTING?
EXCUSE ME
THE SOLDIERS WE SENT TO HIS VILLAGE...
...CALL THEM BACK.
DURGA...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS WHO HAD THIS SWORD?
THOSE MYTHS COULDN'T BE TRUE
I'M SORRY TO HAVE DOUBTED YOU.

WERE THE OTHER SWORDSMEN IN LOVE WITH YOU TOO?
WERE YOU?
IT'S TRUE THAT I FOUND ONE STRONG SWORDSMAN AFTER ANOTHER...
...TO FIGHT SO THE SPELL COULD BE BROKEN.
BUT YOU'RE DIFFERENT
IN THE BEGINNING I JUST WANTED TO PROTECT YOU...
YOU WERE JUST A LITTLE BOY.
THEN, YOU WORKED HARD TO BECOME STRONG
YOU DEPENDED ON ME, AND YOU GREW STRONGER AND STRONGER. I..
...WANT TO PROTECT YOU FOREVER I'VE NEVER FELT THIS WAY ABOUT ANYONE ELSE.

I CAN'T WAIT..
..TO TOUCH YOU.
Touch...
I CAN FEEL IT!
... BUT JUST MY FINGER-TIPS.

I'VE BEEN FIGHTING FOR SO LONG..
YOU AND THE OTHER SWORDSMEN
... IT'S BEEN SO LONG ...
... BUT STILL, IT'S JUST MY FINGER-TIPS
TO FEEL ALL OF YOU...
... I GUESS IT'S STILL NOT POSSIBLE ..
... I WONDER HOW LONG WE HAVE TO WAIT ..
rrozzrr...
Wah!!

THE VILLAGE...
WHILE I WAS GONE...
Waa~!!
THERE WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SOLDIERS FROM THE CASTLE...
WHY?
SETH YOU CAME!
Stab
LARDA!!
URRR...
AGAIN...
IT'S THE SAME AS BEFORE...
NO ONE LEFT...

FIGHTING, AGAIN
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT A LIFE THAT IS NOTHING BUT FIGHTING?
DURGA ...
TO BRING YOU BACK TO LIFE WAS MY SOLE PURPOSE.
AS I'M SURE IT WAS FOR THE OTHERS TOO
EXHAUSTED FROM FIGHTING.
BUT STILL, THEY COULDN'T SEE YOU.

OVER-WHELMED BY FEELINGS FOR YOU...
...THEY GAVE THEMSELVES UP.

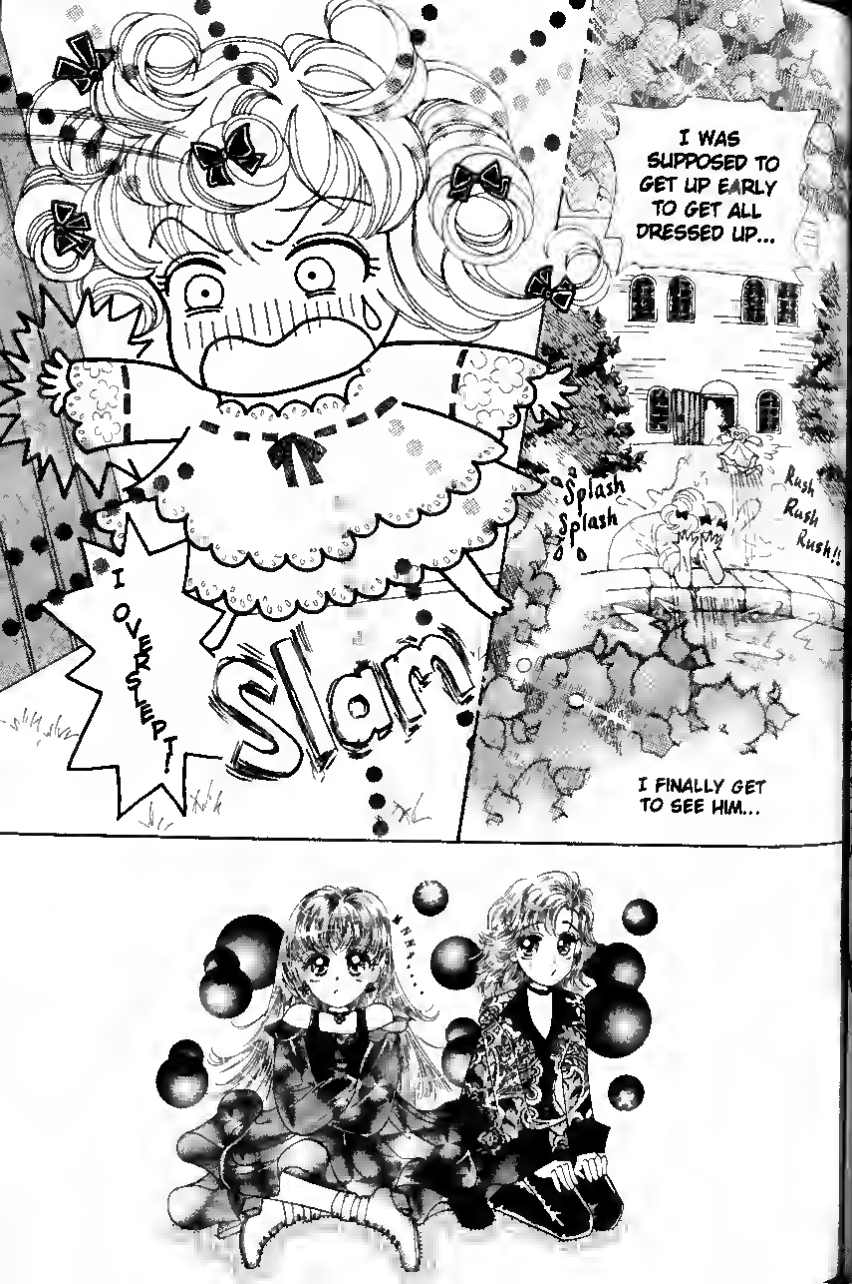
NO!!
DON'T DO IT!
DURGA, YOUR BODY..
...IT'S HEAVY
ka-ching!!

THE SPELL IS BROKEN!
I COULDN'T STOP ANY OF THEM.
I'M SO HAPPY...
IT'S NOT ONLY ABOUT FIGHTING ANYMORE...

...WE CAN BE...
TOGETHER...
FROM NOW ON, I CAN LIVE FOR YOU!

MY DREAM IS TO TRAVEL THE WORLD AQUIRING DIFFERENT COUNTRIES' TREASURES WITH MY BELOVED YOU-KNOW-WHO.
BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE THING THAT I REALLY WANT.
IT'S MORE PRECIOUS THAN ANY TREASURE IN THE WORLD, AND NO PRINCESS CAN BUY IT.

Brandon the Thief


I WAS SUPPOSED TO GET UP EARLY TO GET ALL DRESSED UP...
Splash Splash
Rush Rush Rush!!
I FINALLY GET TO SEE HIM...
I OVERSLEPT!
Slam

BRANDON, HAVEN'T YOU FOUND THE TREASURE ...
... OF THE GEM-STONE KINGDOM YET?
UH .. UH .. NO, SIR.
Stomp Stomp
I'M SORRY GRAMPS. I'M LATE.
OH NO!
:pant: :pant:
Rustle Rustle

OH! BRANDON!
WELCOME HOME!
LUI?
ARE YOU GOING TO WORK OR SOMETHING? YOU'RE ALL DRESSED UP IN YOUR WORK CLOTHES.
Swish Swish
UHHH... NOT REALLY.
I GOT ALL DRESSED UP FOR BRANDON.
LUI! LATENESS IS NOT GOOD!
SO, BRANDON, CONTINUE YOUR STORY.
MINE AND BRANDON'S WORK...
Yes Sir!
...IS TO GET PRINCES AND PRINCESSES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD...
...TO FALL IN LOVE WITH US...
BRANDON HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO CHARM A PRINCESS.
SO WE CAN GET THEIR TREASURES.
HE DOESN'T HAVE TO STEAL THEIR TREASURES. THEY GIVE THEM TO HIM.
But, he does steal their hearts!
Just kidd...
HEE HEE
100% SUCCESS RATE!

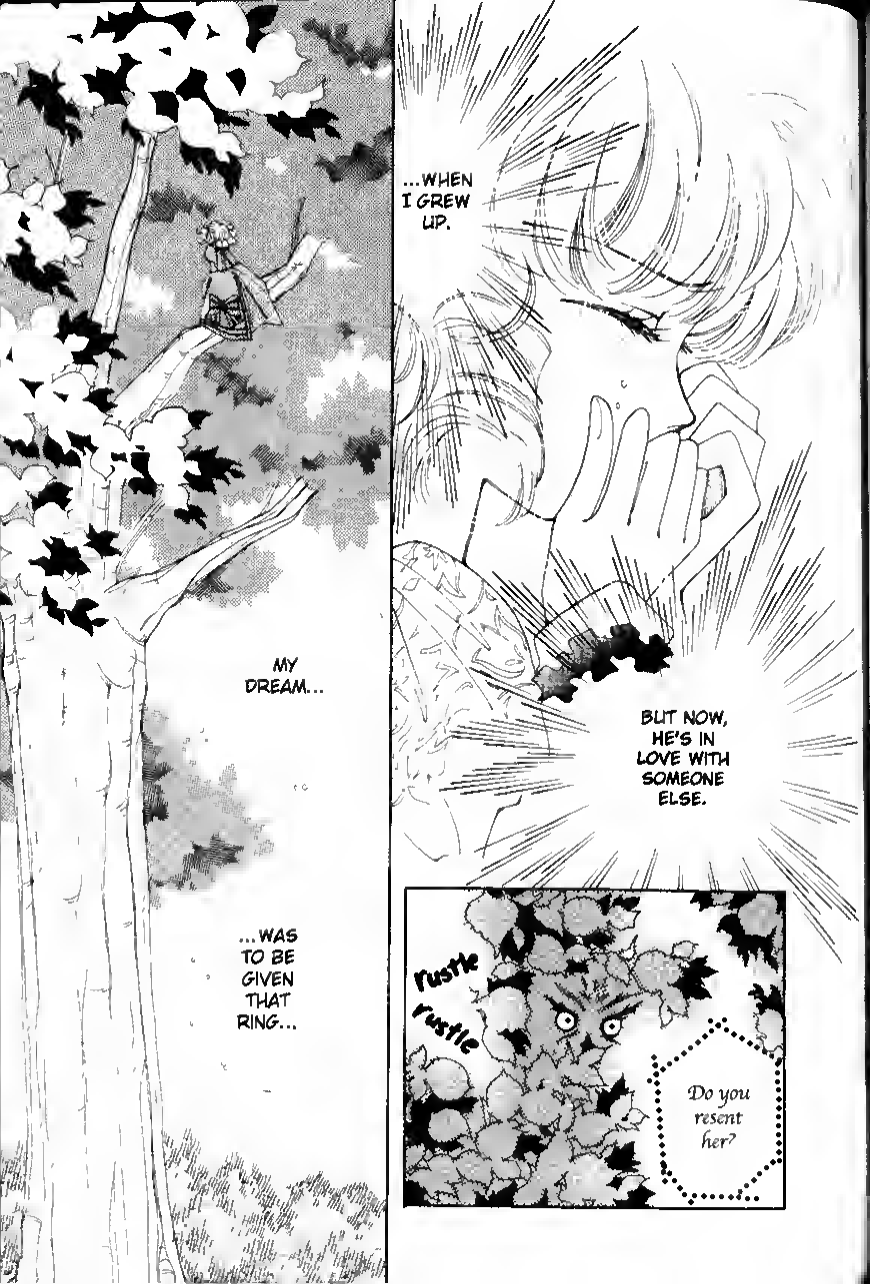
INTRUDER!
I'M STILL IN TRAINING.
RUN!!
I'M JUST AN UNATTRACTIVE, UNSUCCESSFUL, PITIFUL THIEF.
JUST FIND THE TREASURE AS SOON AS YOU CAN, BRANDON.
RUMOR HAS IT THOSE CLEVER LITTLE DEVILS ARE HANGING AROUND GEMSTONE!
IT APPEARS THAT THE TREASURE IS THE "STONE OF POWER."
WHAT IS THAT STONE?
SINCE THE LITTLE DEVILS ARE AFTER IT, IT MUST BE A STONE THAT BOOSTS MAGICAL POWERS.
AND JUST BY BEING THERE, THE STONE BRINGS PEACE AND PROSPERITY TO THE KINGDOM.

I WILL GO BACK TO THE KINGDOM AND FIND IT.
JUST BY BEING THERE...
IT MAKES ME HAPPY...
Sigh
...JUST TO BE NEAR HER.

MATTHEW IS MY GEM!
EVEN IF I HAVE TO BETRAY MY PEOPLE, I WILL PROTECT MATTHEW.
BRANDON, YOU'RE LEAVING AGAIN?
CAN I GO AND HELP YOU?
EH?
!! Brandon!
It's been ages!
HEY THERE!
FIAS
THIS TARGET MUST BE SOMETHING FIERCE... YOU NEVER GET TO COME HOME...
OR HAVE YOU FALLEN IN LOVE OR SOMETHING, AND YOU DON'T WANT TO COME HOME?
LOVE?!
NO WAY ...
LIKE I WOULD FALL IN LOVE WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN MYSELF.
Yeah, that's true! Phew!
Brandon is the eternal narcissist
HA HA HA
Wow, that sent my heart racing!!
NO WAY.
NOT HIM.
NOT POSSIBLE.
OH YEAH
THE RING ...!!

THERE'S ONLY ONE!!
THE PAIR OF RINGS...
...BRANDON'S MOM GAVE THEM TO HIM...
...TO GIVE TO THE WOMAN HE FALLS IN LOVE WITH.

LUI?
Huh? Where'd she go?
HE GAVE IT TO SOMEONE!!
ONE DAY...


MY DREAM...
...WAS TO BE GIVEN THAT RING...
...WHEN I GREW UP.
BUT NOW, HE'S IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
rustle rustle
Do you resent her?

-THUMP-
WHO'S THERE?
I am on your side
I know how you can get him back from that horrible girl
Get your hands on Gemstone's Stone of Power, and cast a spell on him
MAGIC? I CAN'T USE MAGIC.
Don't worry. I'll teach you.
THE KINGDOM OF GEMSTONE

OK, SO WE WILL GO WITH THIS POSE.
PRINCESS LORI, ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT OUTFIT?
Wouldn't a dress be...

THIS IS FINE, BOB.
If there's a painting of me in a dress, how embarrassing... would that be when I go back to being a guy!!
HUH!?
A GUY?
?Bob

SIR MATTHEW!
stomp stomp
Oh no, that voice!
HE'S BACK.

A PORTRAIT?

SOB
POOR SIR MATTHEW!!

YOU MUST WANT TO BE IN A BEAUTIFUL DRESS FOR YOUR PORTRAIT, JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER!
Oh geez
NO-OOOO THAT'S NOT IT AT AAAAALLL!!
shake
shake

FOR THOSE OF YOU READING PRINCESS PRINCE FOR THE FIRST TIME...

...WE'D LOVE IT IF YOU READ THE OTHER TOMOKO TANIGUCHI STORIES, TOO...

...LIKE AQUARIUM. CALL ME PRINCESS, AND LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER.

I'VE BROUGHT SOME TEA.
Hey, you're cute. Are you new?
HMF
STRANGE PREFERENCES THESE TWINS HAVE.
and what about Bob's preference in hair styles?
WHY DON'T WE CALL IT A DAY AND START AGAIN TOMORROW ?
THANK YOU. GOOD BYE.
CLUNK
I'VE COME TO CLEAN YOUR ROOM.
IT'S ANOTHER NEW GIRL.
Lots of new people this episode.

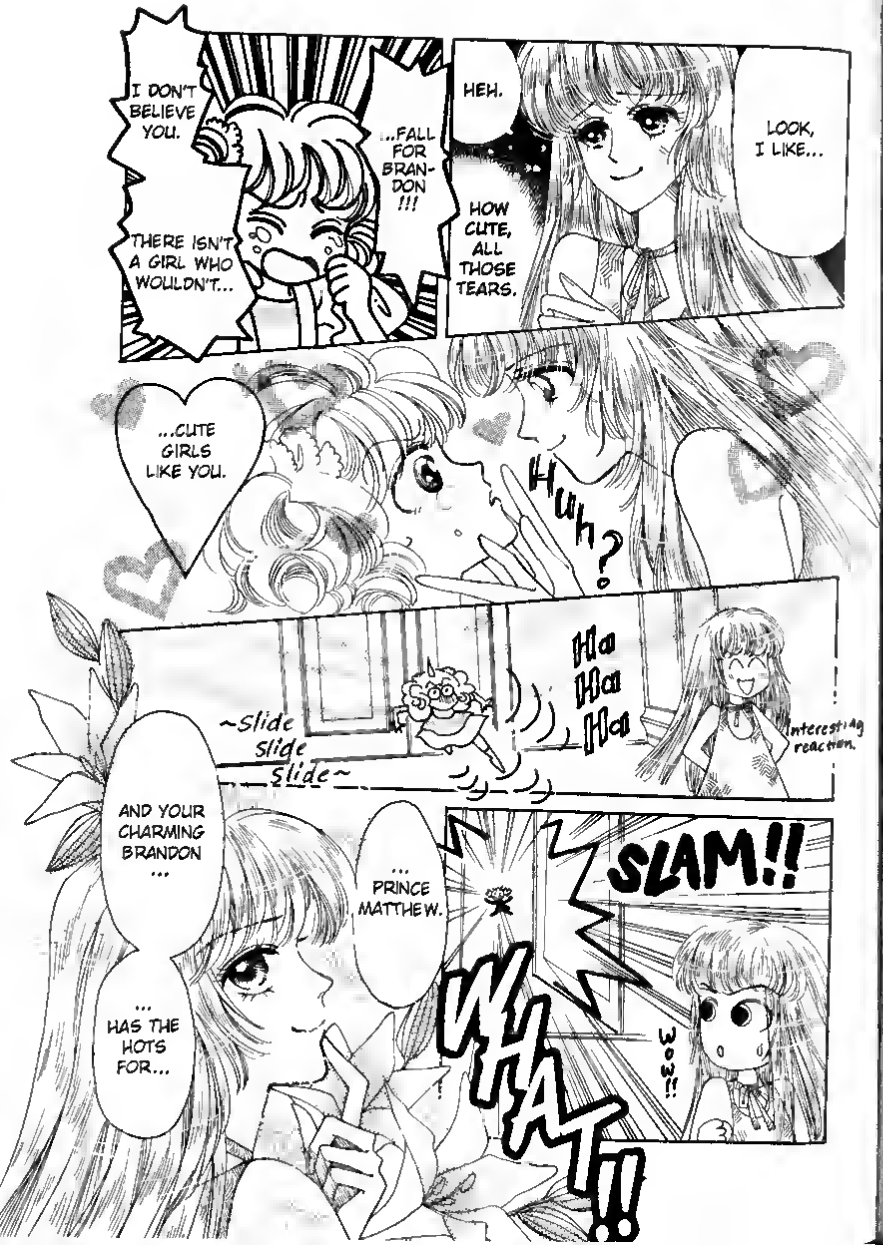
YOU'RE CUTE. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
LUI.
GRR!
HARUMPH, SHE'S NOTHING.
-glare glare-

DRIP
STARE
?
There's something creepy here...
HMP!!
WHAT AN UGLY EARRING.
flap flap
LUI!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

HMM...
GRAMPS TOLD ME TO COME HELP YOU ...
... BECAUSE YOU'RE HAVING A HARD TIME.
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE NOT YOURSELF, LUI.
NOTHING'S WRONG!!
knock knock
PLEASE, COME IN.
PRINCESS LORI, MAY I COME IN TO CLEAN?
"Sweep" "Sweep"
clink
?

THIS IS...
SO IT'S PRINCESS LORI?
HUH?
IS THIS YOURS?
HUH?

OH, THIS.
Oops, I dropped it.
I CAN'T SAY THAT MATTHEW GOT IT FROM BRANDON.
GIVE BRANDON BACK!
WHA!?
HE'S GOT NO BUSINESS BEING WITH A PRINCESS LIKE YOU.
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'D WANT TO SEDUCE HIM SINCE HE'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING IN THE WORLD.
UH
WAIT A SECOND
HE'S NOT MY TYPE.
Seduce him?!


I DON'T BELIEVE YOU.
THERE ISN'T A GIRL WHO WOULDN'T...
...FALL FOR BRANDON !!!
HEH.
HOW CUTE, ALL THOSE TEARS.
LOOK, I LIKE...
...CUTE GIRLS LIKE YOU.
Huh?
Ha Ha Ha
~Slide Slide Slide~
Interesting reaction.
AND YOUR CHARMING BRANDON ...
... HAS THE HOTS FOR...
... PRINCE MATTHEW.
SLAM!!
WHAT!!
WOW!!

WHAT? SHE'S BRANDON'S FRIEND?
Huh?
Don't go dropping this.. he gave it to you.
Yeah yeah.
SHE'S PROBABLY COME AFTER HIM.
BRANDON, IT'S NOT TRUE IS IT?
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE, YOU SEE... HE IS REALLY A "PRINCESS".
YOU DIDN'T GIVE PRINCE MATTHEW THAT RING...
WHY A MAN?
SO YOU LIKE HER?
IS IT BECAUSE OF HER THAT YOU NEVER COME HOME?

SLAP!!
LUI?!
I... ALWAYS WAITED FOR YOU.
ALL THOSE TIMES YOU WERE OFF SEDUCING GIRLS FOR WORK...
... I WAITED FOR YOU TO COME BACK.
BUT IS IT POINTLESS FOR ME TO KEEP WAITING?
I... I'M QUIT-TING THIS JOB.
I NEVER HAD TALENT LIKE YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE.
THE THING I WANTED MOST...
... IS OUT OF MY REACH NOW.

MORE PRECIOUS THAN ANY TREASURE...
...A RING STEEPED WITH BRANDON'S LOVE.
TSK TSK!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
SHE'S SO CUTE, WHY WOULD YOU FALL FOR MATTHEW?

I DIDN'T KNOW...
...THAT LUI FELT THAT WAY.
WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER ...
...SO I DIDN'T REALIZE.
EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER, RIGHT?
LIKE BROTHER AND SISTER...
... IT WAS ALWAYS SO NATURAL.
BRANDON'S LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON...
...WHEN HE IS WITH HER.

HE DOESN'T PUT ON AIRS AND THERE'S NOT AN OUNCE OF MALICE IN HIM.
SO, THAT'S THE REAL BRANDON.
Ehehehe!
THAT YOU IS MUCH BETTER.
BUT EMM, HAS A ... ... STRANGE FEELING ABOUT HER.
EMMA THINKS YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL.
Lui, you must find the Stone of Power
to get him back.

LUI, COULD YOU TAKE THIS TO SIR MATTHEW?
OH, THANK YOU, LUI.
THIS PERSON IS BRANDON'S...
Lui, find the Stone!
Huh?
UM, YOU SEE ...
...CAN I TALK TO YOU?
SIR MAT-THEW ...
Clink

WILL YOU TAKE ME TO THE STONE OF POWER?
GRAB!
NGN...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...?
STAB!!
Slice!!
Ha Ha
WOW, YOU'RE REALLY STRONG.

I'M SERIOUS.
I HATE YOU.
IF YOU DON'T TELL ME, I'LL KILL YOU.
MISS LORI, HAVE YOU SEEN SIR MATTHEW?
I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HE IS, I'M LOOKING FOR HIM TOO.
LUI IS MISSING TOO.
HEY! WHAT IS IT THAT THE THIEVES ARE AFTER?!
UH.

YOU! FIND SIR MATTHEW!
YES !!
UNDER HERE, IN THE CAVE.
UNDER HERE?
THE STONE OF POWER, THERE?
shudder
I feel it, definitely!
We don't need him anymore. Kill him!

LUI!
Freeze!
THE STONE IS MINE.
LUI'S BEHAVING STRANGELY.
THERE'S NO WAY MATTHEW'S BEEN CAPTURED BY A GIRL.
STOP! LET HIM GO!

IF HE'S GONE...
... I CAN GET BRANDON BACK.
I CAN FEEL IT... THE PRESENCE OF A DARK SPIRIT.
IT'S THE EARRING!
GET IT!
Kill him!
stab!!
UGH!!

Uh...
Slip...
WHY?
I CAN'T BELIEVE I...
Ka-link
I...
HOW DARE YOU FOOL EMMA ALL THIS TIME!
GRAB!!
HE CAN'T USE HIS POWERS WHEN I'M AROUND.
Brandon? Are you okay?
THAT'S WHY HE WAS USING LUI... TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HER FEELINGS.
HE WAS LAYING LOW SO I DIDN'T NOTICE.
How could Emma miss them?!
You should stay stuck as an earring forever!
UH...
Choke
=SOB SOB=

AH!
GET UP! COME WITH US!
BE GENTLE!
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO HER?
PUT HER IN THE BASEMENT DUNGEON FOR NOW.
WE'LL DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH HER LATER.
SHE'S ONE OF MY GANG!
PUT ME IN THE DUNGEON TOO!

BRAN-DON.
I CAN'T DO THAT. YOU SAVED MY LIFE.

KLINK
SIR MATTHEW, I...
I SWORE THAT I WOULD PROTECT YOU FOREVER.
YES, AND YOU PROTECTED ME THIS TIME TOO.
THANK YOU.
BUT, I... I...
THE PROMISE... I CAN'T...
LOOK BRANDON ...
... I THINK YOU KNOW THAT I DON'T NEED YOU.
BUT THERE IS SOMEONE WHO REALLY DOES NEED YOU.
AND THIS, THERE'S SOMEONE WHO REALLY WANTS IT.
I'M GIVING IT BACK.
ping!

WHY DID YOU DO SUCH A THING?
TO BE FOOLED BY A LITTLE DEVIL...
WERE YOU THAT DESPERATE TO HAVE GRAMPS APPROVE OF YOU?

I DIDN'T DO IT FOR THE WALSH CLAN.
I JUST THOUGHT THAT IF I COULD USE MAGIC, YOU WOULD...

YOU WOULD...

MAGIC? YOU CAN USE MAGIC?
THAT OWL TOLD ME HE'D TEACH ME.
LUI, DO YOU REALLY THINK MAGIC CAN CHANGE A PERSON'S FEELINGS?
I KNOW, I'M STUPID.
AS IF MAGIC WOULD MAKE YOU LIKE ME.
CAN I ASK YOU...
...JUST ONE FAVOR?
IT'S OK IF IT'S A PRETEND ONE... WOULD YOU...
...KISS ME?
I CAN'T, LUI.
THESE IRON BARS ARE IN THE WAY.
SLAM!!

KICK
BRANDON, LOOK WHAT YOU DID.
He's insanely strong

LET'S GO HOME.

YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO COME BACK HERE AGAIN.
YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE MATTHEW AGAIN.
...JUST SAY IT. "I WANT YOU TO COME HOME WITH ME..."
...UNLESS YOU DON'T WANT ME TO.
LUI...
THE RING MADE A LITTLE DETOUR.
DO YOU STILL WANT IT?
PLEASE COME HOME!
I WANT YOU TO BE WITH ME FOREVER!

OK.
WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOGETHER ...
...AND WILL BE FROM NOW ON TOO.
WE MUST GO AFTER THEM.
swing
THE NEXT DAY, THEY FIND THE EMPTY DUNGEON...
swing
THIS DUNGEON IS SO OLD IT'S EASY TO BREAK OUT OF.
DID YOU KNOW THIS ALL ALONG?

I JUST GAVE A LITTLE PERFOR-MANCE.
I'M SURE BY NOW, THE DASHING KNIGHT WHO SAVED HIS LOVER HAS ARRIVED HOME SAFELY.
AREN'T YOU A LITTLE SAD?
GOOD-BYE BRANDON!
Sigh
I pray for your happiness
A LITTLE WHILE LATER, MATTHEW AND LORI HEARD A RUMOR THAT A YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL BANDIT COUPLE WERE BREAKING INTO PALACES ALL OVER THE PLACE...
THE TWO PRINCES EAGERLY AWAIT THE DAY THAT THE COUPLE COMES TO PAY A VISIT TO THE KINGDOM OF GEMSTONE.

Tomoko Taniguchi

Tomoko was born in Hokkaidō, the northernmost part of Japan. She spent one year in Ann Arbor studying English and she graduated from the English Institute program at the University of Michigan.

When she returned to Japan she entered a contest held by a monthly horror magazine that was looking for new cartoonists. She submitted a forty-page story and won first prize. It was her debut as a professional cartoonist.

Her first shoujo story, AN-PAN-BALANCE, won another contest and was published in the monthly magazine OMAJINAI COMICS.

She has had a total of nine tankoubans (Japanese graphic novels) published under the MB (or My Birthday) Comics label in Japan, including CALL ME PRINCESS, AQUARIUM, PRINCESS PRINCE and LET'S STAY TOGETHER FOREVER. Tomoko has been published in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, the U.S.A. and Mexico.

Tomoko hopes that her stories will make people feel happy because that makes her happy too.